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OBSERVATIONS

ON A

TOUR

THROUGH

THE HIGHLANDS

AND PART OF THE

WESTERN ISLES

OF

SCOTLAND;

PARTICULARLY

STAFFA AND ICOLMKILL:

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

A DESCRIPTION OF THE FALLS OF THE CLYDE;

OF THE COUNTRY ROUND MOFFAT,

AND AN

ANALYSIS OF ITS MINERAL WATERS.

BY T. GARNETT, M. D.

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A NEW EDITION.

ILLUSTRATED BY A MAP,

And Fifty-two Plates, engraved in the Manner of Aquatinta, from DRAWINGS taken on the spot by W. H. WATTS, Miniature and Landscape Painter, who accompanied the Author in his Tour.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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PREFACE.

It will, perhaps, appear highly presuming in me, to intrude on the world another Tour through the Highlands, after the number that have been already published. But though we have several well-written journals, I know of none whose object is so extensive as mine, excepting the excellent Tour by Mr. Pennant, a work which will always be read with interest, and remain a monument of the talents and industry of its author. I took the journal of this eminent writer with me, and compared his description with the objects themselves, which, as far as they went, were remarkably accurate; but I soon found that considerable employment was left for a gleaner.

These volumes contain a description of the country, manners and customs of the inhabitants, natural curiosities, antiquities, mineralogy, botany, natural advantages, proposed improvements, and an account of the state of manufactures, agriculture, fisheries, and political economy, with local history and biography. My object has been to give as perfect an account

as possible of every place and every thing I saw: to effect which, I have not ventured to rely entirely on my own observation, but have freely levied contributions on my predecessors; not, however, without acknowledging my obligations to them.

Among other works, I am particularly indebted to Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, which is undoubtedly the best local history that ever has appeared in any country: it will be an invaluable treasure to posterity, and reflects the highest credit on the ministers who drew up the accounts of the different parishes. As persons resident on the spot must be acquainted with many particulars which will escape the traveller or occasional visitor, I have been enabled, by consulting this valuable work, to make my accounts much more perfect. In short, I trust, that from all these sources united, I have been able to give a more full and correct account of the districts through which I passed, than has been done before in a work of this kind.

This work is, I hope, adapted to serve as a guide to those who visit the Hebrides, or who make what is called the long tour of the Highlands by Fort William, Fort Augustus, and Inverness; or to those who make only the short tour by Inverary, Dalmaly, Dunkeld, and Stirling; or to those who only visit Loch Lomond and the Falls of the Clyde. The only part not described, is the stage in the short tour between Dalmaly and Killin.

THE reader will find several philosophical notes, which he may, perhaps, think had better have been omitted; but I was induced by the example of Dr. DARWIN to hope, that by this mean some readers might be allured from the straight path of the tour, to take a glance at the secret operations of Nature, and that the slight taste which they would thus have of her dainties, might give them a relish for a more sumptuous repast. It is only to the general reader that they are addressed; the philosopher will find scarcely any thing new in them; and those who have an absolute dislike to all philosophical investigations, may pass them over. I have generally thrown the natural history as well as the biography, into the form of notes, that they might not terrify or impede the progress of the light reader, but be in readiness to satisfy the curiosity of the inquirer.

SHOULD it be asked why I have inserted many historical facts, such as the massacre of Glencoe, Gowrie's conspiracy, &c. by way of episodical digressions; I can only say, that though these facts stand recorded in history, I have thought proper to insert them, because it makes the place infinitely more interesting to the traveller to have an account of every remarkable circumstance relating to it before his eye: besides, many persons visit these scenes who are not well versed in history, or who may not recollect what is connected with the places they examine.

I EXPECT that what I have said of the wretched situation of the inhabitants in the Highlands, will give offence to some per-

sons, and particularly to those who have it in their power to ameliorate their condition; but I was actuated only by a desire to increase the comforts, and remove the distresses of the natives. I have in no instance, knowingly, lost sight of truth; it has been my wish and endeavour to

———" Speak of them as they are,
Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

I CANNOT let slip an opportunity of paying a slight tribute to the Companion of my tour, whose lively disposition, civility, and good nature, contributed not a little to the pleasure I received, and the productions of whose pencil form so valuable a part of this work.

THIS work was composed at Glasgow, some time before I was offered the situation I now have the honour to hold in the Royal Institution of Great Britain. This the reader will perceive, from the manner in which I have mentioned Anderson's Institution. I have not, however, thought it necessary to alter what I have there said, especially as the work was prepared for the press, and sent to London, before I had an idea of leaving Scotland.

THIS work comes before the world very different from what I once expected it would. It was not written when the mind was cheerful and at ease, but in the midst of domestic distress, the most severe that the human heart can feel: it was frequently interrupted by lowness of spirits, occasioned by the sudden death

of a beloved wife, the companion of my studies, and partner of my literary labours; and it was only resumed at intervals with a view to relieve a mind oppressed by grief, a state ill suited to composition. It likewise wants the polish which it would have received from the hand of one whose taste and style were infinitely superior to my own; and this is the only rational apology I have to offer for intruding on others my private afflictions, the force of which is yet unabated; and though removed from the sad scene, the deadly arrow sticks in the wound, which in recollection bleeds as fresh as ever.

The face with rapture view'd, I view no more;
The voice with rapture heard, no more I hear:
Yet the lov'd features mem'ry's eyes explore;
Yet the lov'd accents fall on mem'ry's ear.

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London, Feb. 1st, 1800.

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Teith R.
Allan Water
Devon R.
Earn R.
Isla R.
Tummel R.
Garry R.
Tilt R.
Dee R.
Don R.
Ythan R.
Deveron R.
On the west coast of Mull in the mouth of Lochna gaul, are some Islands distinguished by the numbers 1.2.3.
1. represents Gometra
2. Ulva
3. Inch Kenneth
S. I. Neele. Sailpott. 352, Strand.

OBSERVATIONS

ON A

TOUR

THROUGH THE HIGHLANDS,

&c. &c.

HAVING long wished to visit some of the most remarkable scenes in the HIGHLANDS and HEBRIDES, particularly the famous island of STAFFA, I set off from Glasgow on the ninth of July, 1798, in the morning, accompanied by Mr. WATTS, a young gentleman who had for some time made landscape and miniature painting his study, and who had likewise an ardent desire to view the sublime scenery of the North. Besides the gratification which I promised myself from such a tour, I was in hopes that my health would be benefited by it: the labours of the session, and close application to the subjects of my lectures, had induced some complaints which frequently attend a sedentary life, and I expected that exercise and a change of

scenery would remove them. Mr. Watts, too, had suffered no little from intense application to his profession; so that we had both similar objects in view. We took the road leading to Dumbarton, which is very good, the country flat, and ornamented, as might be expected in the neighbourhood of so opulent and populous a city as Glasgow, with villas and country residences.

After passing through Anderston, an improving village, we next came to the village of Patrick, where the company of bakers at Glasgow have some very extensive mills and granaries: these mills are situated on the river Kelvin. About five miles from Glasgow we passed Scotston, close to the Clyde; soon afterwards we had a view of the ancient borough of Renfrew, on the opposite side of the river, and riding on a little farther, we perceived on our right hand, about a mile and a half from the road, a gateway of a curious gothic structure, which would have been a rather more suitable approach to a castle than to a villa, or small country-house. The house is called Garscadden, and is the property of Mr. Colquhoun.

About eight miles from Glasgow, on the opposite side of the Clyde, is North-bar, or Sempill-house, the residence of Lord Sempill. The road hitherto, though near the banks of the Clyde, had been flat, and not interesting; but before we reached the ninth mile-stone, we ascended a little eminence called Dalnotter-hill, just below which is the village of Old Kilpatrick. At

View from Dalnotter Hill.

Published January 1st 1800, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.

this place, the view which had been hitherto confined, begins to open, and presents to the eye a scene which is highly picturesque. The Clyde here expands to a noble river, producing a very fine effect in the landscape: in the middle, the rugged rock of Dumbarton rises abruptly, and seemingly insulated; towards the right is the ruined fort of Dunglass, projecting into the Clyde; a singular situation, but undoubtedly once a place of strength; on the left, almost close to the edge of the water, is seen Erskine, the seat of Lord Blantyre, pleasantly situated, and surrounded by plantations. Farther on the right, you perceive some rude and rugged rocks, dipping their bases in the river, as if to confine it within its limits; these rocks are fringed with brushwood, but here and there the rude fronts appear through the foliage: in the distance the lofty mountains of Argyleshire bound this charming view. Dumbarton, with its glass-works, is seen to the right of the rock of Dumbarton; and on the left may be discerned the towns of Port-Glasgow and Greenock; the numerous white sails on the Clyde, contribute very much to enliven the prospect, of which perhaps a better idea may be formed from the annexed plate, than from any description. In the fore-ground is seen the entrance of the grand canal into the Clyde, with one of the drawbridges.

This canal displays, in a striking view, what can be effected by the art and perseverance of man. Its extreme length from the Forth to the Clyde, is thirty-five miles, beginning at the

mouth of the Carron on the east, and ending in the Clyde near Kilpatrick, on the west coast of Scotland. It rises and falls 160 feet, by means of thirty-nine locks, twenty of which are on the east side of the summit, and nineteen on the west; for the tide does not ebb so low in the Clyde as in the Forth by nine feet. There are eighteen draw-bridges, and fifteen aqueduct bridges of considerable size. About five miles from Kilpatrick, the canal crosses the river Kelvin, and is carried over a valley by means of an aqueduct bridge, consisting of four arches, sixty-five feet high, and four hundred and twenty in length. The situation of this bridge is very picturesque, and exhibits a striking effort of human ingenuity and labour.

Vessels of very considerable size, for instance those drawing eight feet water, and not exceeding nineteen feet beam, and seventy-three in length, can pass with great ease along this canal.

This amazing work will unquestionably be found of great national utility; by means of it, a tedious and dangerous navigation, north about, from the eastern to the western coast, is avoided, which is at all times desirable; but in winter, and in time of war, a very important object. It will likewise contribute very considerably to the improvement of the country through which it passes, by giving an easy and cheap carriage to its produce, and will greatly conduce to the establishment of manufactures, by affording so excellent a conveyance of the

raw material and manufactured goods, as well as coal, without which it is almost impossible for any manufacture to be carried on to a great extent.

It appears that a navigable canal between the Forth and Clyde, was projected by the ministers of Charles II. for transports and ships of war, the expense of which was calculated at 500,000*l.* a sum very much exceeding the abilities of that monarch's reign. The project was resumed in the year 1722, when a survey was made; but the business was carried no farther till the year 1761, when Lord Napier caused a plan, survey, and estimate of a canal on a small scale, to be made at his own expense. In the year 1764, the trustees for fisheries, &c. procured another survey, plan, and estimate of a canal five feet deep, the expense of which was to be 79,000*l.* In 1766, a subscription was set on foot by a number of respectable merchants in Glasgow, for making a canal four feet deep, and twenty-four broad; but when the bill had nearly passed through Parliament, it was given up on account of the smallness of the scale, and a new subscription commenced for a canal seven feet deep, the estimate of which was 150,000*l.* This obtained the sanction of Parliament, and in the year 1768, this great work was begun, under the inspection of the celebrated engineer, Mr. SMEATON.

To supply such a canal with water, was itself a great work; for this purpose, one reservoir has been formed, which is

twenty-four feet deep, and covers fifty acres; there is another in the neighbourhood of Kilsyth, the depth of which is twenty-two feet, and which extends over a space of seventy acres. This last reservoir was formed at an inconsiderable expense, in comparison of the surface and quantity of water which it contains: the engineer having taken advantage of an extensive hollow, which seemed as if scooped out on purpose by the hand of Nature. At one part only of this hollow, there was a deep opening, 100 feet wide at the bottom, and 200 yards at the top; by filling up this to the height of about twenty-five feet, the work was at once completed; and by leaving a sluice in the centre, it can be filled and emptied at pleasure. The whole is ornamented with plantations, and finished in a neat and masterly manner, and forms perhaps one of the largest and most beautiful artificial sheets of water in the kingdom.

KILPATRICK is an inconsiderable village, but has apparently been a place of more importance in former times than at present. It takes its name from St. Patrick, the famous tutelar saint of Ireland; Kil Patrick signifying the cell of Patrick. He is said to have been born here, and there are some circumstances which favour this tradition.

IN the river Clyde, opposite to Kilpatrick Church, is a large stone, or rock, visible at low water, called St. Patrick's stone,* and in a burial place in the church-yard, is a tombstone of

* Statistical Account of Kilpatrick.

great antiquity, with a figure engraved on it, said to be that of St. Patrick, and some go so far as to assert, that he was buried under it. From this country he passed over to Ireland, of which he took the charge, and is said to have founded there three hundred and sixty-five churches, ordained three hundred and sixty-five bishops, three thousand priests, and converted twelve thousand persons in one district, baptized seven kings at once, established a purgatory, and with his staff, at once expelled from his favourite island every reptile that stung or croaked!*

From Kilpatrick we turned out of the road for about a mile and a half, to view the remains of a Roman bridge over a brook, at the village of Duntocher, in the line of the Roman wall. This bridge has an appearance by no means unpicturesque, the arches being supported by rugged rocks, down which the water of the brook forms a pretty cascade. It has been nearly dilapidated, but was repaired in the year 1772 by Lord Blantyre, as appears from an inscription on a stone placed by the side of it.† The part which is Roman, may however be easily distinguished.

* Pennant's Tour, Part I. p. 160.

† The inscription is as follows:

PONTEM . HUNC . EXTRUI . CURAVIT.
IMP . T . ÆL . ANTONIN . HADR . AUG.
P . P . QUINT . LOLL . UR . BIC . LEG.
FERE . COLLAPSUM . RESTITUIT .
DOMINUS DE BLANTIRE . A.
AER . CHR . MDCCLXXII.

The Roman wall, (or Graham's Dyke,) as it is commonly called, from a tradition that a Scottish warrior of that name first broke over it) between the Forth and Clyde, may be easily traced near Duntocher by the mound, though none of the stones can be seen, excepting now and then in digging.* This wall was first marked out by Agricola, and completed in the reign of Antoninus Pius, under the direction of Lollius Urbicus, the Roman Prætor. It extended from Dunglass, in the Firth of Clyde, to Abercurnie, in the Firth of Forth, through a space of thirty-six miles and 877 paces, forming a barrier between the unconquered Caledonians on the north, and the Roman dominions on the south; for though the Romans made frequent incursions beyond the rampart, the consequences of these were only temporary; that people having never obtained any permanent establishment northward of this wall. The ditch was originally twenty-two feet deep, and forty-seven wide, and defended by frequent forts or stations.

Near the bridge at Duntocher, in the year 1775, as a countryman was digging a trench on the declivity of a hill, he turned up several tiles of uncommon form. They were of several different sizes, the smallest being seven, and the largest twenty-one inches square. They were from two to three inches in thickness, of a reddish colour, and perfectly sound. The lesser ones composed the sides of a canal, or labyrinth of

* In the track of this wall, several stones have been dug up, the inscriptions on many of which are entire, and preserved in the College of Glasgow.

passages, which were covered with the larger tiles, these last forming a floor; above which, when it was discovered, lay two feet deep of earth. This floor was surrounded by a cistern-wall of hewn stone.* The most probable conjecture concerning this building is, that it was used as a *sudorium*, or hot bath, by the neighbouring garrison, as it is known that the Romans almost constantly used this luxury. The stones which composed the bath, as we were informed, were removed, by the tasteless decree of the occupier of the ground, to build a miserable cottage. In the neighbourhood of Duntocher-bridge, was a Roman fort, now entirely demolished; and the village seems to have been partly built with the stones which composed it. On one of these stones, in the side of a cottage, the word N·E·R·O· is still very legible. Some urns have likewise been dug up here. On our return to Kilpatrick, we visited some very extensive flax mills, conducted by Lindsay, Dalrymple, and Co.

We received a very kind invitation to dinner from Mr. Vassal, an English gentleman then resident near Kilpatrick, which we accepted, and from whom we experienced much hospitality and attention.

After dinner we pursued our route to Dumbarton. Close to the Clyde, and very near the place where the great canal

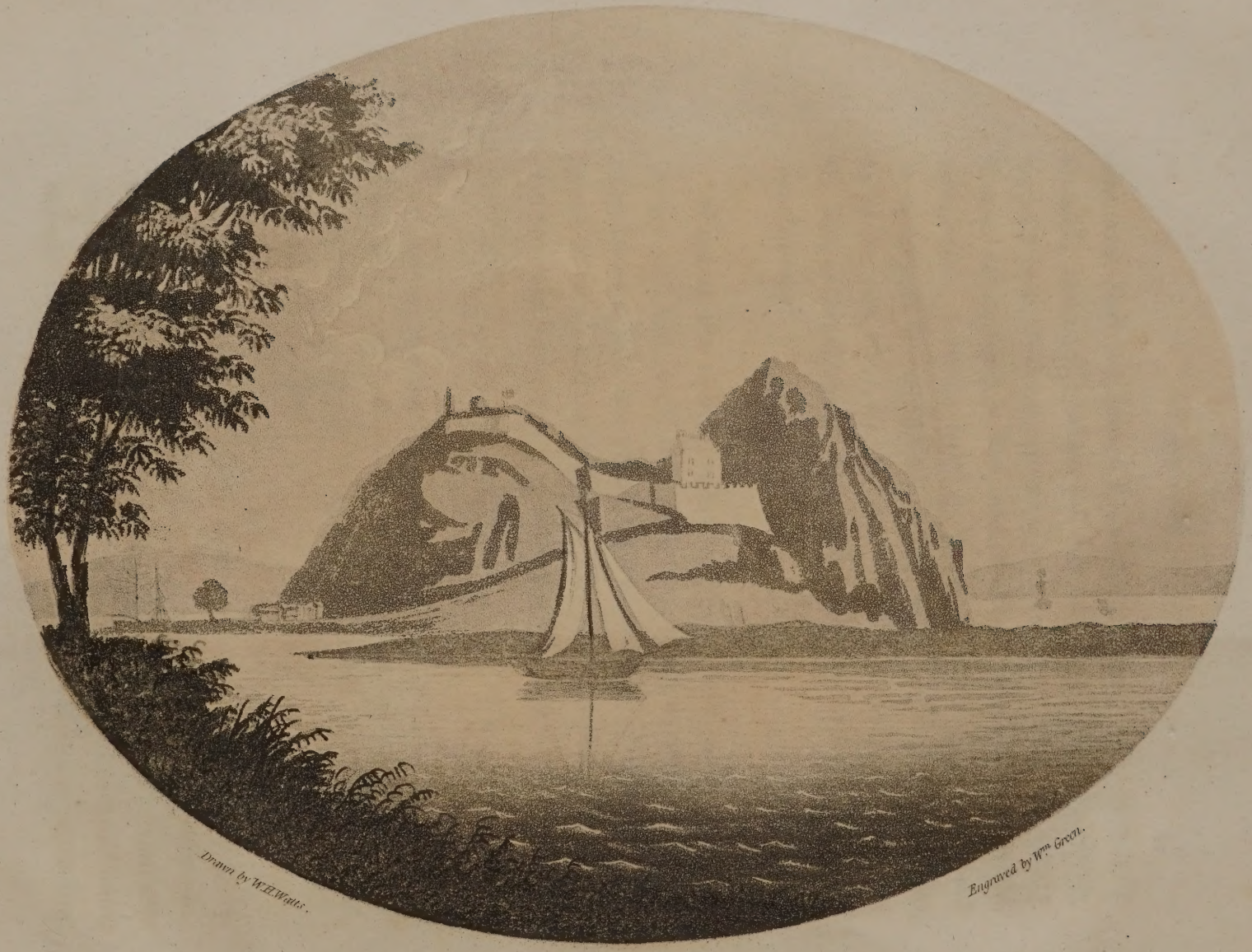
* See Statistical Account.

joins that river, we passed Friskiehall, a small villa, singularly situated; and a little farther the ruinous fort of Dunglass, standing on a point of the promontory of Dunglass. This was once a Roman station, and in the time of Oliver Cromwell, a place of considerable strength; from its situation, it was well calculated to command the navigation of the Firth. The fort was blown up in the year 1640, by the treachery of an English boy, page to the Earl of Haddington, who, with many persons of high rank, was destroyed.

WITHIN the ruined walls, one solitary habitation alone remains, and one single inhabitant instead of an armed host; a circumstance that can suggest no unpleasing reflections to the lovers of peace and civilization. The ruins are low and inconsiderable, and by no means so picturesque an object as represented by Gilpin.

As we approached Dumbarton, the bold parts of the rock became more and more distinct: it appears a situation admirably calculated for a fortress, being only accessible on the north-east, which is well fortified.

DUNBUC, the rock on the right of the road, likewise puts on a majestic appearance, and is, as well as the rock of Dumbarton, composed of basaltics, which has some tendency to a columnar form. Indeed, there appears to be a chain of rocks of this kind, though often interrupted for a considerable space, extending



Dunbarton Castle.

from Dumbarton to Stirling, and perhaps to Edinburgh, for the rocks on which the castles of Stirling and Edinburgh stand, bear a considerable resemblance to the rock of Dumbarton. The Campsie hills make part of this chain, which ends with Dunbuc; and there can be little doubt that the rock on which the castle of Dumbarton stands, has belonged to it, the intervening soil having probably been washed away. Basaltic columns, as will be afterwards more particularly noticed, have been discovered in several places in this line of mountains, especially in the western front of the great rock above Culcruich, in Stirlingshire, where the columns are very high, distinct, and chiefly hexagonal.

About the thirteenth mile-stone from Glasgow, we had the first distinct view of Benlomond, which is a very grand one; this mountain forms the centre of the back ground; on each side are hills of inferior magnitude.

As we approached the castle of Dumbarton, it became a very picturesque object: the rock divides about the middle, and forms two summits: the craggy sides are finely broken, and the buildings upon it, though not of themselves beautiful, have a good effect, and, as Mr. Gilpin justly remarks, serve to give it consequence. You enter this fortress by a gate at the bottom. Within the rampart which defends the entrance, is the guard-house, and lodgings for officers; from hence you ascend, by a long flight of stone steps, to that part of the rock where it

divides: here is a battery, barracks for the garrison, and a well, or reservoir, always filled with water. Above these, on the lower summit of the rock, are several batteries mounted with cannon. The access to the higher and narrower summit is very difficult. From the upper batteries are some very extensive views.

LOOKING towards the north, you see Loch Lomond, bounded by rugged mountains, among which Benlomond is conspicuous, rearing his pointed summit far above the rest. Between the lake and Dumbarton, is the rich vale of Leven, enlivened by the windings of the river.

TURNING eastward, the Clyde is seen forming some fine sweeps. Dunglass Castle appears on the left, and Lord Blantyre's house on the right. Beyond the Clyde, the distant country is very rich, and on a clear day, the city of Glasgow may be discerned, particularly towards the evening.

THE prospect down the Clyde is no less interesting. The river expands into a large æstuary, occupying a great part of the view: beyond are high mountains, whose rugged outlines and surfaces are softened by distance, or what painters call aërial perspective, and under these mountains on the left, are distinctly seen the towns of Greenock and Port Glasgow. These views are not a little enlivened by the white sails which con-

tinually skim the Clyde, bearing the produce of the most distant parts of the world.

According to Bede, the ancient Britons called this fortress Alcluith, or Ancluid, that is, the place on the Cluid, or Clyde; but the Scots, or Caledonians. who were formerly separated from the Britons by the river Leven, called it Dun Britton, or the fort of the Britons, because it was within the territory of the Britons. This word was easily corrupted to Dumbarton; and hence we see that the rock or castle has given the name to the town and country.*

Some parts of the rock of Dumbarton are strongly magnetic, causing a compass when brought near it to vary considerably. Indeed, this circumstance was observed by Buchannan. In the upper part of the castle, he observes, is a vast piece of rock of the nature of a loadstone, but so closely connected and fastened to the main rock, that no manner of joining appears.†

The late ingenious professor Anderson of Glasgow, made several experiments on the magnetism of this rock, and marked with paint those parts which possessed magnetism, with the direction of the poles.

* Vide Georgii Buchanni rerum Scoticarum Historiæ, lib. xx. sect. 28.

† In superiore arcis parte, ingens est saxum, Magnesii quidem lapidis sed ita cætesæ rupi coagmemtatum et adhærens, ut commissura omnino non appareat.
Buchanni rerum, Scot. Hist. lib. xx. sect. 28.

CONSIDERING that the rock is of the basaltic kind, it is not surprizing that it should be in some degree magnetic. All basaltic pillars that have been tried, have been found so in a greater or less degree. Those of the Giant's Causeway on the north-east coast of Ireland, and those of Staffa, are strongly so; the lower parts of the pillars possessing a north polarity, and the higher parts a south; just in the same way, and for the same reason, that iron bars do, which stand long in an erect position. Indeed, this might be expected *à priori* from the nature of basaltes, a considerable part of this substance consisting of iron approaching to a metallic state.

THE true Scotch thistle, a rare plant, having its light green leaves variegated with white, grows in considerable quantity about the bottom of the rock, and sparingly even on the very top.

ACCORDING to Pennant, the Britons in very early times made this rock a fortress, it being usual with them, after the departure of the Romans, to retreat to the tops of craggy inaccessible mountains, to forests, and rocks on the shores of the sea.

BOETHIUS however asserts, that the Scots, or ancient Caledonians, were possessed of it some ages prior to the Britons, and that it resisted all the efforts of Agricola, who besieged it: it is undoubtedly a fort of great antiquity, for the venerable

Bede observes, that it was the strongest fortification possessed by the Britons in his days. In former ages it was deemed impregnable. History, however, informs us, that it was reduced by famine, in the reign of Egbert king of Northumberland, in the year 756, and by escalade in 1571. This being a bold and singular enterprize, I shall take the liberty of relating it at some length, as it may be amusing to those not well acquainted with Scottish history.

At that time, Lord Fleming was governor of the fort, by commission from the banished Queen. It was the only place of strength of which the unfortunate Mary retained possession; and its retention was looked upon as an object of importance by her friends, as it was the most convenient place in the kingdom to land any foreign force that might be sent to her assistance. The strength of the place rendered Lord Fleming more secure than he ought to have been, considering its importance. He boasted to the King of France, that he held in his hands the fetters of Scotland; and whenever the French had leisure from other wars, if they would lend him a little assistance, he could easily put them on, and bring the whole kingdom under their power.

This confidence of the governor was increased by the treachery of the garrison soldiers at Edinburgh castle, who had lately revolted. The sickness of the regent also, who was severely afflicted with the gout, and at that time much hurt by a

fall from his horse, was a circumstance not calculated to abate it; he was likewise encouraged by a truce obtained for them by Elizabeth Queen of England, which was to expire the last day of March. These considerations rendered him and his garrison soldiers so secure and negligent, that they frequently spent the whole night in riot and festivity, in the neighbouring town of Dumbarton, with the same thoughtlessness as if the country had enjoyed the most profound peace.

THE plan of surprizing the garrison was first suggested to the regent, then at Glasgow, by a common soldier who had served in the fortress, but had been disgusted by what he supposed to be ill usage. While he lived in the garrison, his wife used often to visit him, and being accused (perhaps not unjustly) of theft, was punished by order of the governor. Her husband, as Buchannan observes, being an uxorious man, and persuaded of her innocence, burned with revenge; he deserted to the regent, and promised that if he would assign a small party to follow him, he would make him master of the fortress.

THE regent, though he saw the importance of possessing the castle, at first hesitated, from want of confidence in the man, or in the means which he proposed. This being perceived by the soldier, he instantly said, that as they seemed to distrust him, he would go himself, and be the first man to scale the walls: "If you will follow me," said he, with soldier-like bluntness, "I

will make you masters of the place, but if your hearts fail you, then let it alone."

THE man appeared confident, sensible, and resolute; in short, the attempt was deemed worth hazarding, it being thought worth while to risk almost any danger for such a prize. The expedition was committed to Captain Craufurd, a bold and excellent soldier. The first of April was the day fixed on for the execution of this daring attempt, as the truce granted to the rebels, through the mediation of the Queen of England, would then have expired. In the mean time, ladders and other necessaries were prepared, and the whole was kept profoundly secret.

ON the evening of the 31st of March, an officer of the name of Cunningham was sent, with a party of horse, to guard all avenues to the castle, that no intelligence of the design might reach the governor. Craufurd followed him with a small but determined band: the place of rendezvous was the foot of Dunbuc, a hill before described, and situated about a mile and a half from the castle.

HERE Craufurd informed the soldiers of the design of their expedition; he shewed them the person who was to lead them on, and had promised first to mount the walls; and told them that he and the other officers were determined to follow. The soldiers were easily persuaded to follow their leaders; the foot

immediately proceeded towards the castle, while the horse were ordered to remain at Dunbuc, to assist them in their retreat, should the enterprize miscarry.

In their way to the rock, two circumstances occurred which disconcerted them; the bridge over a brook which runs between the fields was broken down, and a fire appeared suddenly at a small distance from it; this led them to suspect that the design had been discovered, that the bridge had been broken down to stop them, and that the fire had been kindled by the soldiers from the garrison, to discover or prevent their approach. But a select band, resolutely bent upon their object, were not to be repulsed or intimidated by trifles: the bridge was soon repaired, so as to be made passable, and the scouts who were sent towards the place where the light was seen, could find no appearance either of fire or light, which gives Buchannan reason to suppose that it had been an ignis fatuus, or meteor of some kind.*

When they arrived at the bottom of the rock, the night was far advanced, and they were afraid lest the clearness of the sky, which was covered with stars, and the appearance of day-light, should discover them to the centinels who watched above.

* Missi ad locum, ubi flamma visa fuerat, speculatores retulerunt, nullum ibi ignis vestigium repertum, unde intellectum est, ardorem illum ex eo genere esse flammarum, quæ, in aëre genitæ, interim subsidunt in terras, et subito conspectæ vanescunt.—Buchanni Rerum, Scot. Hist. lib. xx. sect. 31.

THE mist, however, which generally at this season of the year, hangs heavy over rivers and lakes, had overspread the upper regions of the castle; a circumstance esteemed fortunate by the officers, and by the men superstitiously regarded as a good omen.

IT was at the summit of the rock that the assailants made this bold attempt, because in that place there were fewer centinels, and their guide assured them they would find a good landing. Here, however, they met with an accident, which had nearly frustrated the whole design. The first ladder was scarce fixed, when the weight and eagerness of those who mounted, brought it to the ground; and though no person received any injury by the fall, yet they feared that the noise might alarm the centinels. Listening a moment, and finding all still, they proceeded again; and placing their ladders with more caution, several of them attained the first landing: there they found an ash-tree growing out of a cleft in the rock, to which they tied ropes, and thus drew up their fellow soldiers. Their ladders were made fast a second time; but in the middle of the ascent, they met with an unforeseen difficulty. One of their companions was seized with a sudden fit, and clung, seemingly without life, to the ladder. All were at a stand—to pass him was impossible; to tumble him down the rock cruel; and might occasion a discovery; but Captain Craufurd's presence of mind did not for a moment forsake him. He ordered the soldier to be tied fast to the ladder, that he

might not fall when the fit was over, and turning that side towards the rock, they mounted on the other without difficulty. Day now began to dawn, and there still remained a high wall to scale; but after surmounting so many greater difficulties, this was soon accomplished. Ramsay, the guide, and two soldiers got upon the wall; they were discovered by the centinels, who gave the alarm, and assaulted them with stones. Ramsay instantly leaped down into the castle, and was set upon by three of the guard; he defended himself with great courage till his fellow soldiers seeing his danger, leaped down after him, and presently dispatched the assailants. The rest of the party followed as quickly as possible, with repeated shouts, and the utmost fury, and took possession of the magazine and cannon. The officers and soldiers of the garrison being alarmed, ran out naked and unarmed, and were more solicitous about their own safety, than making resistance.

THE governor, Lord Fleming, slipping down part of the rock, and descending along a bye-way, was let out at a postern, got into a small boat which was under the walls, and fled into Argyleshire.

AFTER the principal prisoners were secured, and the soldiers had leisure to examine the path they had taken, it appeared to them such a tremendous precipice, that they declared if they had foreseen the danger of the service, no reward whatever should have induced them to undertake it.

THUS did private resentment, without any political consideration whatever, put into the hands of the regent, this important fortress. It is a curious reflection, but upon examination it will be found generally true, that the greater number of public events of consequence, have their source in private pique, or private interest. History is full of instances, where from these motives, mankind have undertaken, what they never would have done from more enlarged considerations; and the great business of the politician is to turn these private interests to his advantage. In the present instance, probably, no reward could have induced the soldier to betray the garrison, while pique at the conduct of the governor carried him to such a length, that rather than forego his revenge, he risked the massacre of numbers who had never offended him. Reason is a cumbrous machine, which cannot easily be moved; but our passions are the springs by which the designing act upon us, and gain their purposes.

As the castle of Dumbarton commands the navigation of the Clyde, and is the key of the western highlands, the fortifications are generally kept in repair; it is garrisoned by invalids under the command of a governor, and some subaltern officers. The government is said to be worth 700*l.* a year.

DUMBARTON is but an inconsiderable town, built upon the eastern bank of the Leven, which almost encircles it. It has some few modern houses, but the greatest part of the buildings

are antique. It was erected into a royal burgh by Alexander II. in the year 1221, and has a good harbour, where large brigs may lie safe in all weathers. About 2000 tons of shipping belong to this place, which employ 70 seamen. The town is entirely free of all imposts and borough taxes, but is by no means in a flourishing or increasing state. This seems to be owing chiefly to the corporation laws, which prevent strangers from working at their trades, without paying very high entries.* Monopolies of this kind generally do harm to a place, as well as to the corporation itself, and ought to be abolished: indeed there are few instances of places attaining any considerable consequence, where trade is thus fettered. In this town is a considerable manufactory of crown and bottle glass, which employs about 130 hands; of the extent of this manufacture some idea may be formed, on being told that it pays on an average 3,800*l* a year in duties to government. The way in which these duties are collected, is however a great check upon the manufacture.

THE extensive printfields in the neighbourhood employ many of the inhabitants of Dumbarton: indeed of late several families have removed from the town to Renton, Bonhill, and other new villages, to be nearer the works where they are employed.

* Stat. Report of Dumbarton.

PACKETS sail every day to Glasgow, Greenock, and Port Glasgow; and a stage coach runs three times a week to Glasgow.

AT a little distance from the town to the north east, is a gothic arch, which is supposed to have been formerly near the centre of the town; but the Leven here expands into a kind of lake, or bason, before it joins the Clyde, and has probably encroached upon the town. This arch is all that remains of a college of secular priests.

THOUGH the general appearance of the place is dull, yet it is a little enlivened in the summer season, by the travellers passing through in their way to the charming scenes of Loch Lomond and the highlands. Dumbarton formerly gave the title of Earl to a branch of the Douglas family.

THIS place is well adapted for manufactures, both on account of its situation on the Firth of Clyde, and from its being well supplied with fuel and provisions, those indispensable requisites to the manufacturing poor, and on reasonable terms: house rent is likewise low—But the people are fond of a sea-faring life, as is usual in such situations: indeed this is the greatest bar to manufactures in a sea-port, the inhabitants having seldom the steadiness requisite for manufacturers. There are but few instances, either in England or Scotland, of manufactures being carried on, to any great extent, in a sea-port town.

AGRICULTURE, in this county, has not had much attention paid to it, at least to its improvement, till within a very few years; but the public spirit has of late been considerably roused to this most useful and independent occupation; and the county of Dumbarton, which is very capable of improvement, is fast advancing in its agricultural progress. The farmers in this neighbourhood do indeed possess numerous advantages; being so near a sea-port town, they have high prices, and ready money for every thing they raise. Wheat is sown in October, November, December, and even in January, and is generally reaped in August. Oats are sown from the end of March to the middle of April; and reaped about the end of August, September, or sometimes not till October. Barley is sown about the end of May, or beginning of June, and reaped in August or September. As the latter part of the season is often very wet, the corn, and particularly oats, suffer very much, especially when it is not reaped till late in October; would it not be advantageous, in most parts of the west and north of Scotland, to procure seed corn from countries still farther north, which is known to ripen sooner than the seed of this country? In Lapland, barley ripens in sixty days, whereas in the south of France, it takes no less than 130 or 140 days to ripen it. The same holds true, though not perhaps to such a degree, with respect to seeds brought from these countries. This depends upon the different state of the irritable principle; both the plants and animals of northern climates, possessing more irritability than those of southern latitudes, the irritability of these

last being exhausted by the stimulus of heat. I could wish to direct the attention of the western parts of Scotland to this circumstance, as it would certainly be important to hasten the harvest in these countries as much as possible. August is the month in which the least rain falls here during the summer, excepting June: September and October are often very wet.* During these months, not only a great quantity of rain falls, but it is more constant, accompanied by a cold and cloudy atmosphere, which is very unfavourable either to the ripening of grain, or drying it after it is cut; and, though in July and August a good deal of rain falls, as appears by the abstract given in the note, yet this falls in pretty heavy showers, while the intervals are very fine, the sun shining clear and bright, often for several days together.

* The following is an abstract made from a journal, which I found among the papers of the late Professor Anderson, who kept a very accurate account of the quantities of rain which fell at Glasgow, from the year 1782 to 1793 inclusive. I have put down the average quantity for each month during that time. Glasgow is about 15 miles east from Dumbarton, and nearly the same quantity of rain is supposed to fall at both places, though perhaps rather more at the latter.

	Inches.		*Inches.*
January	2,71	July	3,08
February	2,22	August	2,50
March	1,63	September	3,22
April	1,22	October	3,28
May	2,11	November	2,15
June	1,76	December	2,77

The average quantity of rain at Glasgow, during the same number of years, deduced from the same journal, is 28,958 inches.

We slept at Dumbarton, and left that town on the 10th of July, at six o'clock in the morning. Before we had got half a mile from the place, it rained exceedingly hard, but in about half an hour it cleared up, and the remaining part of the day was remarkably fine. On leaving Dumbarton, we crossed the bridge over the river Leven, which issues from Loch Lomond, and falls into the Clyde; we passed the road to the left which leads to Arroquhar by Loch-gair and Loch-loung, and pursued that to Luss, which is excellent and remarkably pleasant. On the right is the Leven, on the left very fine sloping banks, covered with wood, and before us the valley, which is extremely fertile.

When we had advanced about two miles on the road, we passed, on our right, the house where Dr. Smollet was born; an old and high mansion, built in the style of the time: a little farther on the left, is a monument erected to the memory of this celebrated man, by his relative, the late James Smollet, of Bonhill. This monument is very lofty, and may be seen from a considerable distance. The annexed plate gives a view of the monument and house. It is a round column, of the Tuscan order, terminated by a vase. On a tablet fronting the road, is the following inscription.

Dr. Smollet's House and Monument.

Siste Viator!
Si lepores, ingeniique venam benignam;
Si morum callidissimum pictorem,
Unquam es miratus,
Immorare paululum memoriæ
TOBIÆ SMOLLET, M. D.
Viri virtutibus hisce
Quas in homine et cive,
Et laudes et imiteris,
Haud mediocriter ornati;
Qui in literis variis versatus,
Postquam, felicitate sibi propria,
Sese posteris commendaverat,
Morte acerba raptus,
Anno Ætatis 51,
Eheu! quàm procul à patria,
Prope Liburni portem in Italia,
Jacet sepultus:
Tali tantoque viro, patrueli suo,
Cui, in decursu, lampada
Se potius tradidisse decuit,
Hanc columnam,
Amoris eheu! inane monumentum,
In ipsis Liviniæ ripis
Quas, versiculis, sub exitu vitæ, illustratas,
Primis, infans, vagitibus personuit,
Ponendam curavit
JACOBUS SMOLLET de Bonhill.

For the sake of my English readers, I shall subjoin the following free translation, by Mr. Lettice:

Stop, Traveller!
If humour, and a happy vein of wit;
If manners, painted by the most skilful hand,
Ever challenged your admiration,
Pause awhile on the memory
Of Tobias Smollet, M. D.
A person not slightly adorned with those virtues
which deserve your praise and imitation,
As a man, and a citizen.
Conversant in various parts of literature,
After he had recommended his name to posterity,
by a happy exertion of original genius,
He was cruelly snatched away by death,
In the fifty-first year of his age.
Alas! far distant from his country,
near Leghorn, a port of Italy,
Sleep his remains!
To such and so great a man,
Was this Column erected,
By his cousin-german, James Smollet, of Bonhill,
Who, in the decline of life,
Might rather have resigned this office of piety,
to be performed towards his own remains,
By a relative so prematurely deceased.
Unavailing monument of affection!

Placed on the banks of that Leven,
which resounded the first cries of his infancy;
And not long before his departure,
Its own praises, the tribute of his muse.

THE village immediately beyond the monument, is called Renton; it is in an improving state, and is chiefly inhabited by persons employed in the printing works: a little farther, on the right, is Cordale, belonging to Stirling and Co. who are likewise proprietors of some of the most extensive printfields on the banks of the river. An idea of the large scale on which these works are conducted may be formed, when it is known, that the Leven and Milton printfields pay to government upwards of 40,000*l.* a year duty.

THERE can be no doubt that the country is enriched, and the nation benefited, so far as wealth may be accounted a benefit, by these works; but at the same time it will scarce be denied, that the innocent simplicity of manners will be banished, and the love of gain, which has a strong tendency to contract the heart, and banish the social affections, will, as well as other vicious propensities, take their place. Could Dr. Smollet take a view of his native vale, instead of the quiet and happy pastoral scenes which he so elegantly describes; instead of bleating flocks, and shepherds piping their rural lays, he will find it the busy haunt of men; and though, as a patriot, he might perhaps rejoice, yet it is much to be doubted whether he would not regret the

calm repose this country enjoyed when it was so dear to him. His charming Ode to Leven Water, paints the beauties of this vale in colours so just, so chaste, and so pleasing, that I cannot forbear inserting it.

On Leven's banks, while free to rove,
And tune the rural pipe to love,
I envied not the happiest swain
That ever trod th' Arcadian plain.

Pure stream! in whose transparent wave
My youthful limbs I wont to lave;
No torrents stain thy limpid source,
No rocks impede thy dimpling course,
That sweetly warbles o'er its bed,
With white, round, polish'd pebbles spread;
While, lightly pois'd, the scaly brood
In myriads cleave thy crystal flood.
The springing trout, in speckled pride;
The salmon, monarch of the tide;
The ruthless pike, intent on war;
The silver eel, and mottled par.

Devolving from thy parent lake,
A charming maze thy waters make,
By bow'rs of birch and groves of pine,
And hedges flower'd with eglantine.

STILL on thy banks so gaily green,
May num'rous herds and flocks be seen;
And lasses chanting o'er the pail,
And shepherds piping in the dale;
And ancient faith, that knows no guile,
And industry imbrown'd with toil;
And hearts resolv'd, and hands prepar'd,
The blessings they enjoy to guard!

PROCEEDING about a mile, on the right we passed Bonhill, the seat of MR. SMOLLET; and near half a mile farther, the road that leads to Balloch,* on the other side of the river, where a fair for horses is held annually on the 5th of September. There is a ferry over the Leven to Balloch, from whence the road leads to Buchannan, the residence of the Duke of Montrose, and to the village of Killearn, the native place of the celebrated George Buchannan, the poet and historian: as a Latin poet he certainly excelled all his cotemporaries, and was perhaps inferior to none whatever, since the Augustan age. Near Killearn, is erected to his memory, an obelisk 100 feet high, which is visible from several parts of Loch Lomond. This obelisk was built by subscription, in the year 1778, more than 200 years after his death. The late Professor Anderson, first suggested the propriety of such a monument, and was indefatigable in obtaining subscriptions; it was first intended to be placed

* Balloch signifies the mouth of the lake.

at the head of Buchannan-street, in Glasgow; but the place of his nativity was judged more proper.*

It may indeed be observed, that this charming country has been fertile in genius, as well as beautiful scenery, and the fruits of the earth. At Garlies, in the neighbourhood of Loch-Lomond, and not far from the Leven, was born another great man; perhaps one of the greatest that ever lived, if greatness be estimated by the benefits bestowed upon mankind. This person was Lord Napier, the inventor of logarithms, a discovery, which, by the ease and expedition it has introduced into calculation, has wonderfully assisted the science of astronomy, as well as practical geometry and navigation.

Passing the road leading to Balloch Ferry, about the fifth milestone, on the road from Dumbarton to Luss, we had the first view of the lake, which is particularly grand and picturesque. Its polished surface, surrounded by rugged mountains, and broken by rich and beautiful islands, cannot fail to arrest the attention of every stranger. On the border of the lake, near its southern extremity, is Cameron, the property of Mr. Smollet of Bonhill, well sheltered, and commanding a fine view of the watery expanse. About a mile farther, we passed *Belretiro,* the property of a younger son of the family of Bonhill; its beautiful and retired situation well deserves the name given it by the

* Some particulars of the life of this celebrated man will be found in the Appendix.

owner; it commands a charming view of the lake and its different islands.

On the left is Dun Fion, or the Hill of Fingal, supposed to have been one of the hunting seats of that hero. We next crossed, by a small bridge, the water of Fruin, hurrying into the lake, and rising on the left in Glen Fruin, or the Glen of Sorrow, so called from a bloody conflict which took place there between the Colquhouns and Macgregors.

In the year 1594, the clan of the Macgregors, a lawless and turbulent clan, whose property and residence were in Glenorchay, came down upon the low country of Dumbartonshire, and committed various outrages and depredations, particularly upon the territories of the Colquhouns; which plundering excursions they several times repeated. In the year 1602, Humphrey Colquhoun raised his vassals to oppose them, and was joined by many gentlemen in the neighbourhood, whose property had suffered by the Macgregors. The parties met in Glen Fruin, where a dreadful combat ensued. They fought with great obstinacy till night parted them, and many were killed on both sides, but the loss of the Colquhouns was very great. The laird of Colquhoun escaped, and retired to a strong castle on the banks of the lake, but was closely pursued by a party of the enemy; they broke into the castle, and found him in a vault, where they put him to death, with many circumstances of cruelty. This happened in the month of February. What added to the horror of

the conflict, was the massacre of several young gentlemen, who had taken no share in it whatever. They had come from the school of Dumbarton, to see the battle, which they beheld from a hill above Glen Fruin, but were in the evening shut up in a barn for safety. The Macgregors discovering them, barbarously put them to death, to the number of eighty.

One of the survivors of the Colquhouns, who was now become the chief, supplicated the assistance and protection of James VI. against this lawless clan; and in order to excite the compassion of his majesty, he carried with him a number of women, who each displayed a bloody garment of some relation or friend that had been murdered by the Macgregors. On account of these cruelties, the clan of Macgregor was proscribed as "lawless limmers, or villains." Even the name was to be for ever abolished, and at baptism no clergyman was to give it under the penalty of banishment and deprivation.

Happily such times are no more! The legislature has some time since repealed these acts, alledging that "the causes in-"ductive of them for suppressing the name of Gregor or Mac-"gregor, are now little known, and have long ceased." The tribe is as civilized and peaceable as any other, and distinguished by active virtues.

From this part of the road we had a very beautiful view of the lake, by whose side we now travelled, seldom losing sight of

Rosedoe.

it. Near the ninth milestone we passed Ross Lodge, on our right, the property of Mr. COLQUHOUN; and soon afterwards came in sight of Rosdoe, the seat of Sir JAMES COLQUHOUN of Luss.

THIS house is most charmingly situated, on a rich peninsula, projecting into the lake, so as to appear insulated: the ground is finely wooded, and a tower of the old castle, the habitation of Sir James Colquhoun's ancestors, and probably that in which the laird was murdered by the Macgregors, forms an excellent contrast to the modern mansion: some very bold and rugged mountains compose the back ground; indeed, a more charming situation than this is seldom seen.

A LITTLE farther on the same side of the road, stands Camstradden, the property of one of the ancient family of Colquhouns; and still to the right, on the side of a hill, is a valuable quarry of blue slate. From 250,000 to 360,000 slates have been annually exported from it. Many of them are sent down the lake, and along the Leven to Greenock, Glasgow, and Paisley, but the greater part goes across the lake to Stirlingshire. This quarry employs about twenty hands. There is another on the estate of Luss, but not quite so extensive.*

LEAVING this quarry, we crossed the water of Luss, a furious torrent, precipitating itself from the lofty mountains on the left,

* Stat. Account of Luss.

into the lake. Soon after crossing this turbulent stream, we arrived at the village of Luss, and breakfasted at the inn, but found the attention and accommodations very indifferent.*

THIS village is situated on a flat piece of ground, projecting into the lake, through the middle of which, the water of Luss passes, whose banks are beautifully cloathed with wood. It may indeed be observed, that wherever we find a piece of level ground encroaching on the lake, we also find a stream or rivulet running through it; and it is this stream which has formed the encroachment: the sand and other substances washed down by the mountain torrents, and deposited in the plain, where the velocity of the water decreases, gradually exclude the water of the lake, and at last confine the rivulet itself to a narrow channel.

THE situation of Luss is delightful, being near the middle of the lake, and having a view of several of the islands, and of the cloud-capped mountains, indented with deep ravines. The

* BOTH sides of the road from Dumbarton to Luss, are interesting to a botanist. The *Digitalis purpurea*, or fox glove, enlivens the hedge-rows the whole way with its purple spikes: opposite Cameron, are amazing quantities of the *Spiræa ulmaria*, or meadow-sweet, and *Valeriana officinalis*, or great wild valerian, the largest I ever saw. Cats are very fond of the root of this plant, and rat-catchers employ it to draw the rats together. Near Ross Lodge, on the opposite side of the road, the *Narthecium ossifragum*, or baſtard asphodel, grows in abundance. This plant has obtained its specific name from its supposed property of softening the bones of animals that eat it. This opinion, however, wants confirmation. (See Withering's Botany.) In many parts of the road between Rosdoe and Luss, the *Erica tetralix*, or cross-leaved heath, beautifies the banks with its elegant purple flowers.

church and manse stand close to the border of the lake, concealed among trees.*

After breakfast we repaired to the manse, to visit Dr. Stuart, the minister, a man of great taste and learning; he received us very politely, and shewed us his garden, which contains a variety of scarce plants, particularly British alpines, brought by himself from their native mountains. I found here most of the scarce plants which grow upon Benlomond and Benevis, as well as in the wilds of the Hebrides, but being removed into a milder clime, they flourish more luxuriantly.

Dr. Stuart has for some time been engaged in translating the Bible into Gaelic.

As we wished to visit some of Loch Lomond's beautiful islands, Dr. Stuart had the goodness to procure us a boat, and we rowed towards one, which was at a little distance from Luss, from whose high top we were told we should have a view of the greatest part of the lake. The island is called Inchtavanach, and when we reached it, we were by no means disappointed; for whether we consider the extent of Loch Lomond, or the

* In 1790 a cotton mill was erected near this village, of a size the most suitable to the place; being sufficiently large to give bread to such as might otherwise want employment, but not to give encouragement to the vices, which are too apt to abound wherever a promiscuous multitude is assembled. It employs from thirty to forty persons, young and old. (Stat. Account.)

variety and grandeur of its scenery, it is undoubtedly superior to any lake in Great Britain.

THIS magnificent expanse of water is about thirty measured miles in length, in some parts its breadth exceeds eight or ten miles, and its surface contains more than 20,000 acres of water.*

THE number of islands, small and great, is at present about thirty: most of them are finely wooded, and ten considerable in size. Inchtavanach, which we had now reached, is about three quarters of a mile long, and near half a mile broad, It contains about 150 acres, chiefly covered with wood and heath,† the latter growing to a very large size. This island is not at present inhabited—at a remote period, a monk is said to have fixed his residence there, from whom it derives its name; *Inch-ta-vanach* signifying the island of the monk's house. A sweeter retirement, or one more adapted for contemplation, could not perhaps have been chosen. This is the highest island in the lake, and is composed chiefly of grey granite; towards the lower parts are found some rocks of micaceous schistus, and considerable quantities of quartz.—It is frequented by the roebuck.

THE ascent up the island is very steep, but is now much facilitated by a winding road made by Sir JAMES COLQUHOUN.

* Stat. Account of Luss. † *Erica vulgaris.*

Drawn by W.E. Wells.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

Fish Pond.

When we gained the top, our labour was repaid by the beautiful views it afforded. Towards the north, the scenery was very bold indeed: the lake is terminated, and, as it were, confined, by Benlomond and other highland mountains, which dip their steep sides in the water, and hide their lofty fronts above the clouds. The sweet village of Luss, and several of the islands, are comprehended in this view.

On turning to the south, the view is much more soft, though less sublime; some of the larger and more beautiful islands, with the peninsula of Rosdoe, are included in it. At a distance is seen the rock of Dumbarton, with gently swelling mountains to the east and west, whose bases are finely wooded.

As from the top of this island, we had a view of most of the rest, this will be as proper a place as any to give a short description of them.

The most southern and largest island in the lake is *Inch-Murrin*, which is about two miles in length, and one in breadth. It is the property of the Duke of Montrose, is well wooded, and abounds in pasture. This island supports about 200 deer, under the care of a game-keeper, who with his family reside on it. At the west end of the isle are the ruins of an old castle, once the habitation of the Earls of Lennox, near which stands a neat hunting lodge, built by the Duke of Montrose in 1793.

The next island, north of Inch-Murrin, is *Grange*, about half a mile in length, covered with oak wood, and affording but little pasture.

Inch-torr, or *Torremach*, is the next; this island is about the size of the former, and is, like it, covered with oaks. It derives its name from the circumstance of its consisting of small hills or eminences, covered with wood.

On the east side of Inch-torr, is *Inch-caillaich*, or the isle of Nuns, as the name imports. It is about a mile in length, high, and very woody: was once the burial place of the Macgregors, and is still used for that purpose by the inhabitants of the parish of Buchannan. The remains of a small chapel are seen here. This island is also the property of the Duke of Montrose; it is inhabited, and produces good wheat and oats.

Inch-Clear is a small island, lying to the south east of Inch-caillaich, entirely covered with wood.

To the south of this last lies *Inch-Aber*, so named from its being situated near the place where the river Endrick discharges itself into the lake. Aber in Gaelic signifying the mouth of a river; and, indeed, it seems not unlikely that this island may have been formed by the earthy substances deposited by the river.

PROCEEDING northward, the island immediately above Inch-caillaich, is Inch-fad, or the long island, which is about half a mile in length, and narrow; it has but little wood, is inhabited, and produces excellent grain and pasture.

THESE seven islands, which I have just described, form, as Mr. PENNANT supposes, part of that chain of mountains called the Grampian hills, which traverses Scotland through a space of more than 180 miles, from the hill of Ardmore on the Firth of Clyde, to the Girdleness of Aberdeen. The course of these islands, which is from south-east to north-west, is evidently in the line of the Grampians.

AMONG the remaining cluster of islands, to the south-west, is a small round island, called *Inch-Galbraith.* In this island are the ruins of a castle, which once belonged to a family of that name; it is covered with wood, and is resorted to by the osprey, or sea eagle.

NORTH of this is *Inch-Conagan,* an island about half a mile long, and more than a quarter broad, covered with oak and fir.

To the south-east of Inch-tavanach, which has been before described, and directly south of Inch-Conagan, is *Inch-Moan,* or the moss isle. It is about three quarters of a mile long, and a quarter broad; it is a very flat isle, and contains upwards of a

hundred acres, chiefly of peat-moss, which supplies the village of Luss, and the neighbourhood with peats.

To the eastward of this last, is *Inch-Cruin*, which is about three-quarters of a mile in length, and has but little wood. It is an asylum for insane persons.

To the north of this island is *Inch-Lonaig*, near a mile long, and more than a quarter of a mile broad; it contains above 150 acres, one-half of which is covered by a natural wood of old yews, some of them very large. When bows and arrows were in use, this island was of great value, and the trees were preserved with the utmost care.

This island has for many years been used as a deer park by Sir James Colquhoun.

There are several other islands, but not remarkable, either for size, or any other circumstance; among these are Cardach, Buckinch, &c. To give a better idea of the lake and its islands, a sketch is subjoined.

The depth of Loch Lomond is very various. South of Luss, it seldom exceeds 20 fathoms; north from that it is much greater. Opposite the point of Farkin, it is 66; a little farther north, 80 fathoms. For about a mile from Tarbet, it is, with little difference, 86 fathoms; about two miles north of that

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Neele Sculp.t 352 Strand.

place, it is 100 fathoms, which is probably the greatest depth of the lake. Beyond this, its depth gradually diminishes to its north end. The north and deeper part of Loch Lomond is never covered with ice: but south of Luss, in severe frosts, its surface has become so completely frozen, as to render it safe for men, or even for horses and loaded sledges, to go from each side to the different islands. It is remarkable, however, that part of the narrow sound between Inch-Tavanach and Inch-Conagan, the average depth of which no where exceeds two fathoms and a half, and where there is no perceptible current, never was known to freeze, even in the severest winter.* This is most probably owing to some springs rising there, fed by the neighbouring high grounds, the water from which will continually issue of a temperature above frost. After great floods, the surface of the lake has been known to rise about six feet higher than is usual after much drought in summer.

THE common people in the neighbourhood tell you, that Loch Lomond has long been famed for three wonders; *fish without fins*, *waves without wind*, and *a floating island*: though, upon examination, none of these, I believe, will be found strictly true. Dr. STUART observes, that vipers, which abound in many of the islands, and are so far amphibious as to swim from one to another, may probably be the fish without fins: and it is well known that a swelling wave, without any wind perceptible at the time, is by no means peculiar to this lake. It

* Stat. account of Luss.

occurs wherever there is any considerable extent of water, when calm weather soon succeeds a storm. The motion which has been given to the water by the wind, does not immediately cease, but the waves have a vibratory motion, like a pendulum, which will continue for a considerable time after the wind has subsided.

WHETHER Loch Lomond is subject to any of these agitations so remarkable in Keswick Lake, and which have been observed and described by Mr. CROSTHWAITE, I could not learn. According to Mr. CROSTHWAITE's account, Keswick Lake is sometimes violently agitated during a calm season, by some unknown cause, and white breakers with large waves are perceptible. This phenomenon is called by the country people a bottom wind.* At the time of the remarkable earthquake at Lisbon, in 1755, the water of Loch Lomond rose very suddenly some feet above its former level; then suddenly retiring, it sunk as much below it. The next flow and ebb, though still considerable, were less than the first; and gradually diminishing, after some hours the agitation subsided, and the surface of the lake again became perfectly calm.--A boat was found on the dry land, at the distance of more than forty yards from its station on the lake; and where the banks were low, the country was overflowed to a considerable extent. It is not unlikely that some phenomenon of this kind, observed at a remote period, may have been the wonder alluded to.

* Dalton's Meteorological Observations and Essays, p. 52.

With respect to the floating island, at present there are none possessed of this property. There is indeed a small island, near the west coast of Inch-Conagan, which is called the Floating Island; it is now however fixed, but that it may have once floated, is certainly credible. In that case Dr. Stuart supposes, with great probability, that it must have been a mossy fragment detached by the waves from the neighbouring isle of Inch-Moan, and kept together by the matted roots of coarse grasses, willows, &c. But supposing that this island did formerly float, the phenomenon is not peculiar to Loch Lomond, for in Loch Dochart, a lake in Perthshire, is a floating island, about fifty-one feet in length, thirty in breadth, and from three to four feet in thickness; this island seems to have been formed by the intermixture of the roots and stems of aquatic plants. It is frequently driven before the wind, and may be pushed about with poles. Sometimes when it rests near the shore, the cattle, tempted by the verdure of its grass, venture upon it, and are often, by the sudden shifting of the wind, transported to the opposite side of the lake.* Whether islands of this kind were more common in ancient times, or whether the stories we have of them may be attributed to the credulity of those dark ages, is uncertain; but Pliny the younger mentions several, which he asserts to have seen moving about the Vadimonian, a lake of Etruria, in a very uncommon manner.†

* Pennant's Tour.

† Interdum junctæ, copulatæque, et continenti similes sunt. Interdum discordantibus ventis digeruntur. Nonnunquam destitutæ tranquilitate singulæ fluitant. Sæpe minores majoribus, velut cymbolæ onerariæ, adherescunt. Sæpe inter se majores, minoressque quasi cursum, certamenque desumunt. Rursus omnes in eundem locum appulsæ. Plin. Epist. Lib. viii. Epist. 20.

Besides, as is observed by Mr. Gilpin, another kind of floating island has in former times been seen upon Loch Lomond, and has confounded the eye of the traveller: this was a sort of raft, which the inhabitants used to make of a considerable size, fastening the trunks of several pines together, and covering them with sods of earth. These rafts were useful on many occasions, but are now unknown, boats being much more manageable and commodious. But in early ages, the raft seems to have been the first species of lake navigation: on it the inhabitants transported their cattle, hay, or other bulky commodities, from one part of the lake to another. But the principal use of the raft was in times of alarm. When an adverse clan was laying waste the country, some poor man, on the borders of the lake, would shift his family and moveables on board a raft; and running under the lee of an island, would attach himself to it. His raft, at a distance, would appear a part of the island itself, and be perfectly concealed. In the mean time he would rear a low hut of boughs and heath against the oak to which he was moored; and would eat his oat-meal, the only provision he carried with him, mixed with the water of the lake till a time of security gave him liberty to return.*

The natural woods growing on the banks of the lake, and islands, consist chiefly of oak, ash, birch, holly, mountain ash, hazel, aspen, alder, yew, hawthorn, and willows. The other indigenous plants are nearly the same as in different parts of the

[* Gilpin's Observations on several parts of Great Britain. Vol. ii. p. 28.

highlands, where soil and situation are similar. A few are to be found which are usually considered as rare.*

Loch Lomond abounds with delicious trout, and the southern part of it is much frequented by salmon, though this fish is not in general fond of lakes; but the salmon here come up the Leven, cross part of the lake, and find their way up the river Endrick, of which this fish is remarkably fond.

After spending a considerable time on Inch-Tavanach, surveying the charming scenery around us, and obtaining information from our boatman, whom we found very intelligent, we embarked again; and having a fair wind, we sailed to the peninsula on which Rosdoe is situated, that Mr. Watts might take a sketch of it: the beautiful situation of this place has been already described.

Having finished the sketch, and surveyed the grounds about the house, we returned to Luss: On our way passed Camstradden Bay, where, at the distance of more than a hundred yards from the shore, our guide pointed out the ruins of some houses, below the surface of the water.

* Among the rare plants in this neighbourhood, are the *Isoetes lacustris*, or quill-wort; *Subularia aquatica*, or awl-wort; *Alisma ranunculoides*, or lesser water plantain; *Osmunda regalis*, or flowering fern; *lichen burgesii*, or crowned lichen, &c. Vide Stuart's Stat. Account.

THIS and other circumstances would seem to shew, that the water in the lake is considerably higher than it once was, and is therefore gaining upon the ground: and the following facts may be adduced as further evidence.

ACROSS the channel of the river Falloch, at the north end of the lake, there are stones fixed at regular distances, once evidently intended for enabling passengers to step from one side to the other, but now never covered with less than four or five feet of water. Besides the remains of these houses, already noticed in Camstradden Bay, about five miles farther south, at a distance from the shore, there is another heap of stones, said to be the ruins of a church; and a field opposite to it is still called *Achna-beaglais*, or the church field.*

CAMDEN also describes an island existing in his day, on which there was a house and an orchard. This was called the island of Camstradden, and was situated between Camstradden and Inch-Tavanach.† The island does not exist at present, but the ruins of the house which we saw in Camstradden Bay, may probably be the same mentioned by Camden.

THIS rise of the surface of the lake, is supposed to be occasioned by the vast quantities of stones and gravel that are continually brought down by the mountain torrents,‡ and likewise

* STUART's Stat. Account of Luss. † Atlas Britannica.

‖ PENNANT's Tour, Part I. p. 177.

Loch Lomond, from the hill above Luss.

by the sand and mud subsiding near the mouth of the Leven, and damming up the water.

At the request of several proprietors, Mr. Golborne made a survey of the lake in order to plan some relief from the encroachment of the water. He proposed to form a constant navigation down the Leven, by deepening the channel, and cutting through the neck of two of its great curvatures, which would give to the water a greater velocity. This, he observed, would not only enable the inhabitants in the environs of the lake to convey their slate, timber, bark, &c., to market at all times of the year, and bring up coal and other necessaries, but by lowering the surface of the lake, would recover some thousands of acres, now covered with water.

On our return to Luss, we dined with our amiable and learned friend, Dr. Stuart, who accompanied us, after dinner, to Strone Hill, just above the village, whence we had a delightful view of the lake and its islands. The evening was fine, the lake still, and a pleasing serenity pervaded the whole scene. Below us was the village of Luss, almost hid in trees, with its verdant points projecting into the lake. Inch-Tavanach, and most of the other islands are seen to great advantage, and in the distance are part of the Grampian mountains, which form a very fine background. The obelisk erected to the memory of Buchannan may be likewise seen distinctly.

SOME of the islands of this little Archipelago consist chiefly of green pasture ground, broken here and there by darker patches of wood; others display steep and rugged hills, clothed with trees, from their summits to the water's edge; their tops thickly tufted, and forming shades impervious to the sun.

A MORE charming situation than the environs of Loch Lomond exists not perhaps in Britain; and though near the southern extremity of the lake there are some elegant villas, yet it seems a little surprising that they are not more numerous, and that the neighbourhood of Luss, and many of the islands, should not be embellished with seats of gentlemen, and opulent merchants.*

* There are indeed many inducements to reside in this neighbourhood, provided pieces of ground can be procured either by purchase or on lease. The climate is mild and temperate; snow seldom lies many days in the low grounds; the mountains and woods break the force of the winds in every direction, and the air, though often moist, is remarkably healthful. Many of the people live to a great age, and are seldom afflicted with diseases. In proof of the healthiness of the neighbourhood, I shall subjoin two lists of persons living in the small village of Luss; the first drawn up in 1769, and inserted by Mr. PENNANT in his tour; and the second in 1793, taken from Dr. STUART's Statistical Report.

1769,	AGE	1793,	AGE
Rev. J. Robertson, minister -	90	Hector Maclean - - -	91
Mrs. Robertson, his wife - -	86	Mary Macfarlane - - -	88
Ann Sharp, their servant - -	94	Janet Walker - - -	84
Neil M'Naughton, kirk officer -	86	Elizabeth M'Wattie - -	81
Christian, his wife - - -	94	Margaret M'Gregor - -	80
Walter Maclellan - - -	90	Duncan Gray - - -	78

There is one woman in the parish aged 97.

What a place, as Dr. Johnson observes, would this be, in the environs of London? The greatest ambition of the rich would be, to possess an island, and ornament it. Even situated as it is, the mind when contemplating scenery so enchanting, fondly paints to itself a society of kindred spirits, inhabiting its happy isles, enjoying among each other, the "feast of reason and the flow of soul." Such an imaginary society is so beautifully described by the elegant pen of GILPIN, that I cannot refrain from giving it in his own words:—

"IN a reverie, we may conceive the happiness of a few philosophical friends, retiring from the follies of life, to such a scene as this; and settling themselves in the several islands that are scattered about the lake before us. Their happiness would consist in the refined pleasures of intercourse and solitude. The visionary does not consider the many economical difficulties and inconveniences of a plan. All these things are below his notice. He enjoys in idea the pleasures of a refined and virtuous society. He feasts on the agreeable expectation that would arise at the sight of a sail making to his little retreat, which he would know was fraught with wit—or classic elegance —or the refinement of taste—or philosophy—or the charms of unaffected piety. The contents of the cargo would be known at a distance, by the direction in which the vessel came.—Nor would the hours of solitude pass with less delight. However pleasing the charms of converse, each member of this virtuous

and happy society would still be his own best companion. He who wants resources within himself, can never find happiness abroad.

"AMONG the amusements of this happy people, it would not be the least to improve their little territories into scenes of simplicity and beauty—academic groves—Elysian fields;

> Where they, whom wisdom, and whom nature charm,
> Stealing themselves from the degen'rate croud,
> May sooth the throbbing passions into peace,
> And woo lone quiet in her silent walks.

"EVEN the dreariness of winter would not want its enjoyments. Winter is the reign of domestic pleasures; and if the storms of the lake forbad the adventitious intercourse of agreeable society, they would at least remove the impertinent intrusions of what was not so. The intrusions of the tattling world would be totally excluded; while books, and elegant amusements, would be a sovereign antidote against the howling of winds, and beating of waves."

NOT being able to procure beds at the inn at Luss, and intending to visit Benlomond the next morning, should the weather prove favourable, we were advised to go over the lake to Rowardennan, a small inn, situated at the foot of the mountain. We rode about four miles along the road from Luss to Tarbet,

to a hamlet called Inveruglas, where is a ferry; and leaving our horses at the house of the ferryman, we walked down to the side of the lake, which was about a quarter of a mile distant. On our arrival there, we found the boat at some distance from the shore, on the other side of a sand bank; and as we did not seem to relish the idea of wetting ourselves, the two boys who were to ferry us over, one of whom might be about fourteen, and the other sixteen years of age, proposed to carry us to the boat on their backs. While I was considering whether this was said in jest or earnest, the eldest took me up, and carried me without difficulty to the boat. The other had got both our saddle bags, which were very well filled and heavy, and was taking them, as I imagined, for his share of the burthen; but, to our mutual astonishment, he, thus loaded, made towards my friend, and mounting him on his back, ran with him and bags to the boat with much agility.

The lake at this place, is little more than a mile in breadth. When we left Luss, its surface was calm, but the wind having risen in the mean time, we found the water very rough and agitated, and it was not without some difficulty that we were landed on a rock on the other side, from which we found our way to the little retired inn.

We soon perceived, from the attention and civility of our host and his family, that we had no reason to regret the want of beds at Luss. It was about nine o'clock in the evening when

we arrived at Rowardennan. We asked for supper and were told that some of the family were gone out to fish for us; and in a very short time we were presented with some delicious trout just taken out of the lake.

Having breakfasted early the next morning, and the appearance of the weather being favourable, we set out for the top of Benlomond, accompanied by a son of our landlord, a civil and intelligent young man, who serves as a guide to those that visit the mountain. He took with him some biscuits, and a bottle of whisky, a precaution absolutely necessary to enable a person to climb a steep ascent of six miles. We consumed near three hours in ascending, as I wished to examine the vegetable productions in our way. When we had got about five miles up the side, which is two thirds of the way, we saw clouds floating below us on the lake, which sometimes obscured a great part of its surface; and we several times found ourselves, involved in light fleecy clouds, which however did not feel sensibly damp.

At length we gained the summit, and were fortunate in finding scarce a cloud within our extensive horizon. The view from the mountain is beyond conception grand and interesting: at the bottom is seen the beautiful lake, stretched out like a map, its islands having lost their rugged forms, and appearing as flat surfaces amid the bright expanse. The banks of the lake are seen ornamented with gentlemen's seats and cultivated

grounds. Looking toward the east, the rich plains of Lothian and Stirlingshire are distinctly spread out to the sight: casting our eyes from thence to the south, and pursuing the view towards the west, the high grounds of Lanerkshire, the vales of Renfrewshire, with the Firth of Clyde, and the wide Atlantic with its islands, are clearly discerned; while the Isle of Man and the coast of Ireland, blend as it were with the sky, being scarely discernible. But to one unaccustomed to highland scenery, the most striking view is undoubtedly on the north side, which may with truth be termed horribly or fearfully sublime. The eye, from where it first discerns the Ochil Hills, near the east, ranging along the north till it comes near the Western Ocean, sees nothing but mountain upon mountain, elevating their summits in almost every variety of shape. In this stupendous range, our guide pointed out to us Benevis, the highest hill in Britain, Benlawers, Benvorlich, and Cruachan to the north; and to the south-west, Goatfield, a high hill in the isle of Arran, and the Paps of Jura. To the north-east, in the vallies between the mountains, we perceived several of the lakes in Perthshire like embossed mirrors. Among these were Loch Catharine, Lochard, and Loch Monteith.

From the north side of Benlomond, springs the famous Forth; here an inconsiderable rill, that a child might step over: very soon, however, the torrents, constantly pouring down from the mountains, increase it to the size of a small brook, which winds its way through the valley, now and then expanding into

a little lake. What is remarkable in this river, is, that even at its origin it winds just in the same manner, as, when become more majestic, it passes through the Carse of Stirling.

In contemplating the origin of this noble river from the mountain, the mind is instantly compelled to acknowledge and admire the wonderful, yet simple, way in which the continual distillation of the watery element, so useful in all manner of life, is carried on in the immense laboratory of nature. The vapour which rises from the ocean, and from the earth, as well as from the surfaces of lakes and rivers, is at first invisible, and perfectly transparent, but getting into the superior and colder regions of the atmosphere, it is condensed into clouds, which either suddenly losing some of their heat, or the atmosphere becoming lighter, fall in showers of rain.

The origin of rivers is however almost always in mountainous countries: the cold summits of the mountains constantly arresting the clouds in their course, form the grand refrigeratories of nature, down whose sides the condensed vapours trickle in innumerable rills. In all hilly countries, numerous little fountains are found to issue from the sides of the hills; some of which flow continually, from their channels being probably deeper, while others only flow after rains; but the coldness on the tops of mountains is such, that they are generally covered with mists, and thus afford a constant supply of water to the springs; at the bottoms of the hills, the

small currents from several of these fountains meet together, and form numerous little rills, which rills descending, continually unite with others, and form brooks: the union of brooks produces rivulets, and these, by joining their waters, form rivers which move majestically along, receiving in their course new tributes from the rivulets of the adjacent country, which they return to their parent ocean, from whence this water is again evaporated, forms clouds, is again condensed, and thus produces a continual circulation.*

THE north side of the mountain is very steep; in one part is a dreadful precipice, more than three hundred fathoms deep; and firm must be the nerves of him who can look down unmoved. On approaching it, we were instantly reminded of SHAKSPEARE'S striking description of the cliffs of Dover;

> How fearful
> And dizzy 'tis, to cast one's eyes so low!
> The crows, and choughs, that wing the midway air,
> Show scarce so gross as beetles.

* This theory of the formation of springs and rivers may be illustrated by bringing a bottle filled with water, or any other liquor, from a cold cellar in summer, into a warm room, loaded with vapour from the breaths of a number of people. The coldness of the bottle depriving part of the air in contact with it of its heat, the vapour will be condensed upon the surface of the glass in the form of a very fine dew; the particles of which uniting and accumulating, trickle down the sides in little streams, which join together, and form larger. The bottle may here be compared to a mountain, rearing its cold summit among the clouds.

We were not long permitted to indulge in the contemplation of the sublime scenery around us; we had scarce been half an hour on the summit of the mountain, when we saw clouds rolling majestically far below us; now covering the surface of the lake, and now hiding the surrounding mountains; dark streams of rain poured down from them into the valleys, and the whole formed as sublime a scene as is possible to contemplate, unless when in addition you see the lightning's flash, and hear the thunder roll under your feet; which not unfrequently is the case. In a short time the air, which had been comfortably warm, became suddenly chill; a dark black cloud from the western mountains came slowly towards us, and in a few minutes began to precipitate upon us its contents, in the form of hail, sleet, and heavy rain. We sheltered ourselves as well as we could under the shelvings of some rocks, but still were completely wet. The cold grew intense, and I wished that I had taken a thermometer with me, to have ascertained the degree of it. When the storm was over, we descended by a route somewhat different, with a view of botanizing. While on the top of the mountain, we observed that the rain which came down in perpendicular streams from the clouds, went along the valleys, following in general their several windings among the hills; the clouds most probably being driven in those directions in which the current of air met with the least impediments, which would certainly be along the valleys.

On our return to Rowardennen, we found that a great deal of rain had fallen during our absence.

The perpendicular height of Benlomond above the surface of the lake, is 3,240 feet; and the average height of the lake above the level of the sea 22 feet, which, added to the former height, gives the perpendicular altitude of the mountain above the level of the sea, 3,262 feet. In height it is surpassed by Benevis, Benlawers, and some other mountains; but the difference is more than compensated by the elegance of its insulated situation, with respect to the neighbouring hills: its form being that of a huge truncated cone, and its appearance, from whatever part it is viewed, much more noble and magnificent than that of the just mentioned hills. The lower parts of the mountain, on the side next the lake, are finely skirted with wood.

In the summer months, this mountain is visited by strangers from every quarter of the island, as well as foreigners, who come to view the romantic scenery of the highlands; the month of September is in general accounted the best for ascending it, because from the cool temperature of the air, the horizon is less clouded by vapours than during the more intense heats of summer.* Those who wish to visit the mountain, may either take a boat from Luss to Rowardennen, or cross over from Inveruglas, or be ferried over from Tarbet, an inn a few miles higher up the lake. On a pane of glass, in the window of this

* Ross's Guide.

last mentioned inn, some verses were written by an English gentleman who had ascended Benlomond, and was probably afterwards confined at Tarbet by rain. Though these verses have been copied into almost every guide and tour, yet as they contain some very good advice and instruction to those who wish to ascend the mountain, and at the same time possess a considerable share of merit, I shall take the liberty of presenting them to my readers.

STRANGER! if o'er this pane of glass perchance
Thy roving eye should cast a casual glance:
If taste for grandeur, and the dread sublime,
Prompt thee Benlomond's fearful height to climb:
Here stop attentive, nor with scorn refuse
The friendly rhymings of a tavern muse;
For thee the muse this rude inscription plann'd,
Prompted for thee her humble poet's hand.
Heed thou the poet; he thy steps shall lead,
Safe o'er yon tow'ring hill's aspiring head:
Attentive then to this informing lay,
Read how he dictates, as he points the way.
Trust not at first a quick advent'rous pace;
Six miles its top points gradual from the base.
Up the high rise with panting haste I pass'd,
And gain'd the long laborious steep at last.
More prudent thou, when once you pass the deep,
With measur'd pace, and slow ascend the steep,

Oft stay thy steps, oft taste the cordial drop,
And rest, oh! rest, long, long upon the top.
There hail the breezes, nor with toilsome haste,
Down the rough slope thy precious vigour waste;
So shall thy wond'ring sight at once survey,
Vales, lakes, woods, mountains, islands, rocks, and sea;
Huge hills, that heap'd in crowded order stand,
Stretch'd o'er the northern and the western land;
Vast lumpy groups! while Ben, who often shrouds
His lofty summit in a veil of clouds,
High o'er the rest displays superior state,
In proud pre-eminence, sublimely great.
One side, all awful, to th' astonished eye
Presents a steep three hundred fathoms high.
The scene tremendous, shocks the startled sense,
In all the pomp of dread magnificence.
All this, and more shalt thou transported see,
And own a faithful monitor in me.

THOMAS RUSSELL, Oct. 3, 1771.

BENLOMOND is chiefly composed of granite, interspersed with great quantities of quartz. This last mineral is found near the top, in immense masses, some of which must weigh several tons; these appear like patches of snow upon the mountain, even when seen from Luss. Considerable quantities of micaceous schistus are found, even at the top, and many rocks to-

wards the base of the mountain, are entirely composed of this mineral.

PLOVERS abound near the middle of the mountain, grouse a little higher, and near the top we saw some ptarmigans, which were remarkably tame.

To the botanist, Benlomond affords a fund of great amusement; as we ascend, we find the plants we had left below assume a very different appearance, and some very rare and beautiful species are found in abundance.*

* The *Alchemilla alpina*, or cinquefoil ladies mantle, grows upon all the upper part of the mountain. The *Sibbaldia procumbens*, or procumbent silver-weed, distinguished by its tridentate leaves, grows in great quantity, even on the very summit. The *Silene acaulis*, or moss catchfly, the leaves of which form a beautiful green turf, like a carpet, which is variegated with a fine purple flower, grows in large patches. The *Rubus chamæmorus*, or cloud-berry, is found in great quantities, about half way up the south-east side of the mountain: the blossoms of this plant are of a purplish white, succeeded by a bunch of red berries, which are ripe in July, and have a flavour by no means unpleasant. These berries are much esteemed by many northern nations, but probably for want of finer fruits. The Laplanders bury them under the snow, and thus preserve them fresh from one year to another. They bruise and eat them with the milk of the rein-deer. (Withering's Botany.) The *Azalea procumbens*, or trailing rosebay, the smallest of woody plants, was first found here by Dr. Stuart, of Luss, but is not very plentiful. The *Trientalis Europæa*, or chickweed-wintergreen, the only British plant of the class Heptandria, grows in the woods near the base of the mountain. The *Pinguicula vulgaris*; *Narthecium ossifragum*; and *Thymus acinos*, likewise abound. Very near the inn of Rowardennen, are to be found great quantities of the *Drosera rotundifolia*, or round-leaved sundew, and *Drosera Anglica*, or great sundew. These plants catch flies, by shutting up their leaves, and crushing

THE shores of Loch Lomond are covered with rounded pebbles, composed chiefly of quartz, granite, and micaceous schistus, with some coarse red jasper, agreeable to the composition of the adjacent mountains, from which they have been washed by rivulets, and polished by the waves of the lake.

BENLOMOND, and the adjoining lands, extending about eight miles along the east side of Loch Lomond, which estate is called Craigrostan, was formerly the property of Rob Roy Macgregor, a famous free-booter, concerning whom several curious anecdotes were related to us. He lived for some time upon his estate, probably with as much honesty as his neighbours, for honesty and peaceable deportment were not virtues of those times. It happened that he, and one Macdonald, borrowed a considerable sum of money from their neighbour, the Duke of Montrose, for the purchase of cattle; the whole, or greatest part of which, Macdonald got possession of, and fled. When the money became due, Rob Roy was unable to pay it; in consequence of which the Duke seized on the lands of Craigrostan, and settled other tenants upon the farms. Rob Roy being thus driven from the inheritance of his forefathers, vowed revenge. He caused a report to be spread, that he was gone to Ireland, but retired to a cave on the edge of the lake, at the foot of Benlomond, several miles above Rowardennen, where he

them to death; in this they resemble the *Dionæa muscipula*, or American fly-eater. For a more particular account of the Drosera, see Withering's Botany, vol. ii. p. 325.

lived with a party of trusty young fellows, most of them his tenants or vassals, and who were therefore warmly attached to him, and interested in his motives of revenge. Here he waited for a proper opportunity of executing the vengeance he had vowed.

THE time arrived, when the Duke's factor came to collect the rents of Craigrostan; Rob Roy being informed of this went with his party to Chapel-Leroch, where the factor lodged, forced him to deliver the money, for which he gave him a formal receipt.

AFTER committing this robbery, which was in the year 1716, he went into Argyleshire, where he was patronized by the Duke of Argyle. On hearing this, the Duke of Montrose remonstrated with his Grace of Argyle, who sent for Rob Roy, and requested him to leave the country. He thereupon desired the Duke to inform Montrose, that though he (the Duke of Argyle) gave him a lodging, his Grace of Montrose fed him. In fact, he continually sent out parties of his followers, who took corn, meal, and cattle, from the Duke and his tenants, whom he laid under regular contributions, requiring them to pay what was called *black-mail*, for the security of their property.*

* The following copy of an order from the Justices of Peace, met in Quarter Session at Stirling, taken verbatim by the minister of Strathblane, from the original

THE following anecdote is likewise related of him: One of the Duke's tenants being unable to pay his rent, the factor had ordered his cattle to be seized; ROB ROY hearing this, sent him money to pay his rent, but way-laid the factor, took it from him, and afterwards presented it to the poor man.

manuscript sent at that time to be published in the church of Strathblane, will shew the manner in which he laid the country under contribution, as well as the impotence of the laws, even at that time.

"At Stirling, in ane Quarter Session, held be the Justices of his Highness Peace, upon the 3d day of February, 1658-9. The Laird of Touch being Chyrsman.

"Upon reading of ane petition given in by Captaine M'Gregor, makand mention that several heritors and inhabitants of the paroches of Campsie, Dennie, Baldernock, Strablane, Killearn, Gargunnock, and uthers within the Sherrifdom of Stirling, did agrie with him to oversee and preserve thair houses, goods and geir, frae oppressioun, and accordinglie did pay him: and now that sum persones delay to maik payment: thairfore it is ordered, that all heritors and inhabitants of the paroches aforesaid, maik payment to the said Captaine M'Gregor, of thair proportionnes, for his said service, till the first of February last past, without delay. All constables in the several paroches, are heirby commandit to see this order put in executionne, as they sall answer to the contrair. It is also heirby declared, that all who have been ingadgit in payment, sall be liberat after such tyme that they goe to Captaine M'Gregor, and declare to him that they are not to expect any service frae him, or he expect any payment frae them. Just Copie, extracted be

James Stirling, Clk. of the Peace.

For Archibald Edmonstoune, Bailzie of Duntreath,
to be published at the Kirk of Strablane."——Stat. Account of Strablane.

In the Statistical Account of Campsie, it is likewise observed, that the father of the present minister of Campsie, Mr. Lapslie, paid *black-mail* to M'Gregor, so late as 1744. Macgregor on his part engaging to secure him from suffering by any *hardship*, as it was termed. Mr. Lapsie having fifteen sheep stolen about the commencement of the year 1745, M'Gregor had actually taken measures to have their value restored, when the rebellion broke out, and the measures that were afterwards taken, put an end to the farther payment of *black-mail*, and to M'Gregor's selfcreated wardenship of the highland borders.—Stat Account of Campsie.

In general, it is said he robbed only the rich, but was humane and charitable to the poor. In his manners and character, he seems very much to have resembled the celebrated English freebooter, Robin Hood; for an account of whose life, see Hargrove's Anecdotes of Archery.

On the 12th of July, early in the morning, we left our little retired inn of Rowardennan, and not without regret; we met here, it is true, with homely fare, such as would have afforded no delight to an epicure, but we were treated with attention and civility, and supplied with the best their situation could afford. We likewise regretted that this day's journey would take us from scenes, which we had beheld with so much pleasure and satisfaction.

We were ferried over the lake to Inveruglas, from whence we pursued the road towards Tarbet, which is by no means so good as that from Dumbarton to Luss, being full of uneasy ascents and descents. The country is nevertheless well wooded and romantic, affording very fine views of the lake and northern mountains, particularly from the Point of Farkin, about a mile from Inveruglas. Looking back from this promontory, we took our last view of the lake and its islands, which appear under a more sublime point of view, on account of the vicinity of the northern mountains. We staid here for some time, riveted as it were to the spot, nor did we quit these charming

scenes without casting many a "longing lingering look behind."

When we arrived at Tarbet,* about four miles from Inveruglas, where is a decent looking inn, we turned to the left, and crossed a narrow isthmus, about a mile and a half broad, along a shady lane and good road, with lofty mountains on each side: this road conducted us to the inn at Arroquhar,† near the head of Loch Loung.‡

It is one of the most spacious and commodious inns in Scotland, and was formerly the residence of the chief of the clan of Macfarlane, but a few years since was purchased by Mr. Ferguson of Raith. The Duke of Argyle obtained a lease of it from this gentleman, and making considerable additions to the original buildings, converted it into an inn; it is now a very convenient stage to his Grace, in his way to and from Inverary.

The situation of Arroquhar is very romantic, it commands a fine view of the Loch, is enveloped in woods, and surrounded by lofty mountains. From one of the windows, they point out to you, at the top of a rugged mountain, on the other side of

* Tarbet signifies an isthmus, or narrow tract of land between two waters: it is a name frequent in the highlands.

† Arroquhar is a Celtic word, signifying a high or hilly country; this name is very descriptive of its situation in the midst of hills and mountains.

‡ Loch Loung signifies the lake of ships; the Norwegians called it Skipafiord, which in their language has the same signification.—Pennant's Tour.

the Loch, a grotesque piece of rock, part of which bears some resemblance to the figure of a cobbler in a working attitude upon his stall.

LOCH LOUNG is not properly a lake, but a narrow arm of the sea, which runs from the Western Ocean, a considerable way to the northward. Such arms of the sea, which in this country are very numerous, are called Lochs, and indeed possess many of the beauties of fresh-water lakes, besides the additional circumstance of the water being always in motion, from the flux and reflux of the tide.

WE breakfasted at Arroquhar, and afterwards took a walk along the banks of the Loch, where the view is very interesting, the lake being confined by fine hills, sloping gradually into it, and some of them on the left, beautifully wooded. The back ground is closed by rugged mountains, softened by distance. On the opposite side, on a flat piece of ground, formed by a rivulet running into the Loch, is Ardgarten, the property of General CAMPBELL of Strachur, and the residence of Mr. CAMPBELL of Ormadale; pleasantly situated, and surrounded with wood. The scene was enlivened by some herring boats, which Mr. Watts has represented in the view, but of which a more particular account will be given in the description of Loch Fyne.

SHOALS of herring frequent this loch, and afford occupation to a number of fishermen: at present there were very few boats,

Pl. 1.

Drawn by W.H.Watts.

Engraved by Wm Green.

and these were preparing to set out for Loch Fyne, where the herring fishery was just beginning. The other fish which frequent Loch Loung, are cod, haddocks, whitings, flounders, mackarel, trout, and sometimes salmon; but no person in the neighbourhood, except a very few individuals, pays attention to any other fishery than that of herrings. Each man employed in the herring fishery on this loch, clears on an average 8*l.* or 10*l.* between the month of September and the first of January, besides laying up a sufficient quantity of herring for their winter food.

THE depth of water in Loch Loung, is from 40 to 80 fathoms. The pebbles on the shore are quartz, granite, micaceous schistus, and red jasper; which show the composition of the surrounding mountains to be nearly the same as those in the neighbourhood of Loch Lomond; there are, however, greater quantities of red jasper among the pebbles of Loch Loung.*

ABOUT the middle of the thirteenth century, HACO king of Norway, sent a fleet consisting of sixty sail up Loch Loung; the crews of which landed, and ravaged the country round Loch Lomond, taking away the cattle and other movables to their ships.†

* On the banks of the lake, and very near the inn, the *Cucubalus behen*, or bladder campion, and the *Sedum album*, or white-flowered stone-crop, grow in considerable quantity.

† Torfœus Hist. Orcad.

LEAVING Arroquhar, we proceeded round the head of Loch Loung, and rode near two miles on its northern banks: on our right we had steep mountains and rugged rocks, the latter of which were chiefly composed of micaceous schistus, shining like silver, beautifully undulated, and in some places imbedded with quartz. At about two miles distance from Arroquhar, we passed Ardgarten, which we had seen from the other side of the lake, and entered a deep and wide glen on the right; this was Glencroe, which forms one of the passes into the highlands. Tarbet and Arroquhar, as well as Rowardenan, are said to be in the highlands, and the inhabitants speak Gaelic, which is called the highland language; yet still the features of the highland country, which are perfectly different from the southern parts of Scotland, do not begin till we enter Glencroe on the west, or Killicranky on the east side of the kingdom. These passes seem the natural boundaries of the bold and rugged hills which characterize the northern part of Scotland.

THE scenery of Glencroe is sublime in the highest degree; on each side are mountains, the most steep and rugged imaginable, with rocks of every shape hanging on their sides: many have fallen into the bottom of the glen, while others seem to threaten the traveller with instant destruction. In some parts, the craggy tops of the mountains appeared almost to meet over our heads; in others the valley opened, and here and there the sides of it exhibited patches of vegetation, covered with sheep. Down the middle of the glen runs a considerable

brook, near which the road is carried; this brook is formed by hundreds of little rills, that tumble, in the form of cascades, from the mountains on both sides; the glen is almost constantly deluged with rain; the high mountains arrest the clouds brought from the Atlantic by the westerly winds, which almost constantly blow here from that quarter.

THE rocks consist almost entirely of micaceous schistus, sometimes imbedded with quartz; but besides these substances, which are likewise found in the brook, in the form of rounded pebbles, there are considerable numbers of granite pebbles, which are, in general, rounded by friction, and must have been washed from some of the deeper parts of the hills; for this rivulet takes its rise in the glen, and it is not easy to see by what means these granite pebbles should otherwise have been brought into it. I found some of the pebbles of micaceous schistus, full of crystals of shorl.

THERE are a few miserable cottages in Glencroe inhabited by the shepherds. These shepherds are the servants of the opulent tenants, who are dispersed in different parts of the farms; for since the introduction of sheep, on an extensive scale, into this country, several small farms have been thrown into one large one. This has undoubtedly enhanced the incomes of the proprietors, who let as much ground to one man as he can stock; but has contributed to depopulate the country. The shepherds, as I observed before, are the servants of the tenants;

their allowance is a cottage, fifty stone of oatmeal, grass for two cows, a little ground for potatoes, and the liberty of pasturing a few sheep with their master's flock. The value of all these advantages may be equal to about 14*l.* or 15*l.* sterling per annum.*

With this they often manage to support a large family, who, when they grow up, are for the most part forced to leave their native country to seek a livelihood. We called at one of these cottages to ask some questions; the poor woman had eight children, supported by the industry of the husband, and clothed by herself; for very generally, in the highlands, the clothing is manufactured at home. Many of them have a little patch of oats growing near the cottage, in lieu of the allowance of meal. Potatoes grow here extremely well, and the proprietors and opulent tenants ought to encourage the cultivation of them, by supplying the shepherds and sub-tenants with proper seed. Before the introduction of this useful root, the highlands used often to be visited by famine. Wet weather frequently disappointed the hopes of the inhabitants; their corn was rotted on the ground, and distress, such as people in the southern part of the island can form no idea of, was the consequence. If the cultivation of the potatoe be attended to, they can no longer dread absolute want, as it is but little affected by wet, at least comparatively. Besides that, its preparation for food is so much more simple, and easy than corn, which must undergo the operations of

* Stat. account of Arroquhar.

Glencroe.

reaping, drying, thrashing, grinding, and baking, before it be fit for use.

The lives of these people are very simple,—milk, oatmeal, and potatoes with fish caught in the stream, or herrings from Loch Loung, or Loch Fyne, and now and then a little mutton, constitute their food, and they contrive to sell a few sheep to buy the little raiment which they do not make for themselves. How little does mankind really want!

It is asserted, that though the sheep farms have depopulated the countries where they have been introduced, yet the shepherds live more comfortably than the petty farmers used.

The length of this glen is between four and five miles: the road ascends gently through the whole of it, excepting the last mile, where it is very steep, and carried in a zig-zag form to the top of the hill. There is a seat, and a stone inscribed "Rest and be thankful," placed here by the twenty-second regiment, who made the road. Here we rested while Mr. Watts drew a sketch of the glen, and I was thankful when he had finished it, for it rained all the time. From the annexed view, a good idea of this glen may be formed, and the winding of the road through it, distinctly seen.*

* Near this seat I found the elegant *parnassia palustris* and *pinguicula vulgaris*.

EMERGING from Glencroe, but still surrounded by steep hills, we passed a small lake called Loch Rest, which empties itself by a furious little rivulet that falls in cataracts into another glen, called Glen-Kinlas; into which we descended, and travelled through it many a weary mile. Arriving at the bottom of the valley, we crossed a bridge where the glen turns to the left, making nearly a right angle with its former direction. This glen is much less grand than Glencroe: it consists of high mountains, whose tops are by no means so rugged, but from which many hundred little streams fall into the river that accompanies the road. Towards the end of the glen, it begins to look more beautiful, the sides being in some degree cloathed with wood.

ON emerging from Glen-Kinlas, we had a view of Loch Fyne, an extensive and beautiful arm of the sea, being more than thirty miles in length. We continued our route towards the Loch, leaving the house and grounds of Ardkinlass, the residence of Sir ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, on our left, and came to Cairndow, situated near the head of Loch Fyne.

HERE we dined; and after dinner visited Ardkinlass.* The ground possesses every advantage from nature, lying close to the beautiful lake; it has some large trees on it, and might be

* Ardkinlass, probably *Aird achoinghlaiss*, the residence of the gray dog. The great extent of plain ground round Ardkinlass, permitted the proprietors to indulge in the pleasures of the chace, the favourite amusement of the times. Stat. Report.

easily ornamented. The house is new, large, and convenient, but the architecture by no means elegant. The old castle of Ardkinlass, a large and venerable pile of ruins, has been entirely demolished to make way for offices, a circumstance surely to be regretted by the lovers of picturesque scenery.

After seeing this place, we turned round the head of the Loch, the shore of which abounds with rounded pebbles,* and rode down the other side, close to the water, having several beautiful views all the way to Inverary, a distance of ten miles from Cairndow. The sides of this lake are skirted with noble mountains, which are entirely naked, and would require a considerable quantity of wood to render them beautiful. But, as Mr. Gilpin justly observes, what they lose in beauty, they gain in grandeur.

About four miles before we reached Inverary, we passed the castle of Dunduramh,† situated upon a low peninsula, and surrounded by lofty trees. It consists of a large, strong tower of an irregular figure, with small turrets above the angles in the wall. It is the property of the Ardkinlass family.‡

* These pebbles consist chiefly of a beautiful granite, in which the grains of feldspar are particularly large. Most of the walls in the neighbourhood of Cairndow are built with this granite, which is brought from the neighbouring hills.

† *Don-Duramh* signifies the fort of the two oars. This castle being built close to the sea, and the access to it by land being in these times very bad, the most frequent communication would probably be by boats.

‡ Above the gate of the castle is the following inscription:

1596

J · MAN · BEHOLD · THE · END · OF · ALL · BENOUGHT ·
WISER · THAN · THE · HIESTES · I · TRUST · IN · GOD ·

As we proceeded on our journey, the lake grew wider, extending towards the right: the view began gradually to open, and on passing a steep hill on our right, a most enchanting landscape burst upon us.

THE lake here appears a large bay, round which are ranged the beautiful plantations of the Duke of Argyle, covering the ground to a vast extent, from the lake to the summits of the highest mountains. The castle rearing its towers above the woods has a very picturesque effect, to the south-east of which, and close to the bay, appears the town of Inverary, in an uniform line of handsome buildings. On the right is a fine view of Dunicoich, a steep hill, 700 feet perpendicular, covered with wood almost to the summit, which is crowned with an old watch tower.

THOUGH the preceeding part of the day had been wet, the evening was remarkably clear and serene; the sun had set, and the feeble rays of twilight reflected by the landscape, gave to it a most captivating softness, and just that indistinctness which is pleasing. We had this delightful scenery in view for near an hour, and when we arrived at the inn, the whole had almost faded from the sight.

THE inn at Inverary is very large and commodious, and we found the attention and accommodations tolerable, though I must confess they did not entirely correspond with the exterior.

JULY 13th. After an early breakfast, we called upon Mr. M'GIBBON, to whom I had a letter of introduction: his son walked with us through the Duke's grounds. The first object that attracted our attention was the castle: this magnificent building stands upon a gentle rise, and is surrounded by a spacious area, bounded by an amphitheatre of mountains, some of which are rugged and broken, others entirely covered with wood. One of these mountains is Dunicoich, formerly noticed. It is covered with wood, excepting where the rugged rocks project through the trees, and add greatly to its grandeur: on its top stands a lonely watch tower, which, like every thing useful or characteristic, has a good effect. Had this hill been crowned with an ornamental building, the effect would have been absurd; and yet we saw a plan which had been proposed for ornamenting this hill with ramparts and bastions, which, if executed, would entirely have destroyed its simplicity and grandeur. Through the lawn before the castle, the Arey, a fine and rapid river, runs into the loch.

LOCH FYNE is the glory of the scene; it spreads out into a noble bay before the front of the castle; forming an irregular circle of about twelve or fourteen miles in circumference, beautifully indented with a variety of peninsulas, and surrounded by mountains. It is, as Mr. Gilpin says, an object not only beautiful in itself, but it makes a fine contrast with the woods and mountains around it.

The house of Inverary, though by no means an old building, is built in the form of a castle, seemingly upon the plan of the mansions of some of the German nobility. It is a square building, with a tower at each corner, and a high glazed pavilion shooting up above the towers from the centre of the roof, which gives the whole an appearance well suited to the scene. This noble mansion relies on its own merits and its situation to attract the attention of the stranger. It presents no white or splendid colour to the eye, forming an ostentatious contrast to the shady groves which surround it; but its grey sombre hue harmonizes with the scene, and gives an air of tranquillity and dignity to the whole.

It is built of a kind of *lapis ollaris*, brought from the opposite side of the Loch, a stone that will, in all probability, long stand the effects of the weather, but which is extremely soft, and wears with friction: the stone steps at the entrances are very much worn. This stone is called *lapis ollaris*, or pot-stone, because the ancients used to form it into pots and other utensils. Mr. M'Gibbon shewed me a large punch-bowl which had been formed of it. A single shower of rain turns this stone almost black, but a gleam of the sun restores its original colour. We had an opportunity of seeing this change on the western side of the castle, several times in the course of a few hours.

We entered a spacious hall, hung round with arms and other ornaments suited to the style of a highland castle. This room

is lighted by the high middle windows, and is surrounded by a gallery, in which is an organ that must have a grand and striking effect on the ear. This is by much the largest room in the house, and, in my opinion, the only one perfectly correspondent to the magnificent exterior of the castle. The other rooms are fitted up in a modern style with exquisite taste; the large drawing-room particularly is a noble apartment, adorned with beautiful tapestry. The turret-rooms serve chiefly as small libraries, or private parlours, and are, most of them, ornamented with good prints.

THERE are no good pictures, excepting a few portraits: among these is a very fine one of the present Duke of Hamilton painted in Italy. A good head of the Marquis of Argyle, in a black dress and short hair; he cut a distinguished figure during the reign of Charles I. and subsequent usurpation: a short, but spirited sketch of his character is given by Mr. Pennant, which I shall take the liberty of presenting to the reader, nearly in his own words:

"He was a man of craft and subtilty, and in his heart no friend to the royal cause, but temporizing according to the complexion of the times; concurring heartily, but secretly, with the disaffected powers, and extending a faint and timid aid to the shackled royalty of Charles II. when, in the year 1650, he intrusted himself to his northern subjects. He was at all times providing pleas of merit with both parties, but was apparently sincere with the usurpers only. With them he took an active part during

their plenitude of power, yet at first claimed only protection, freedom, and payment of his debts due from the English parliament. His own interest seems to have been constantly in view. While Charles was in his hands, he received from that penetrating prince, a promissory note for great honours and emoluments. He is charged with encouraging his people in various acts of murder and cruelty; but the provocations he had received from the horrible ravages of Montrose, may perhaps extenuate rataliation on such of his neighbours, who, for any thing that appears, partook of the excesses. He is charged also with possessing himself of the estates of those who were put to death by his authority, a charge which his fine defence on his trial does not repel. His generosity in declining to take an open part in the prosecution of his arch-enemy Montrose, would have done him great honour, had he not meanly placed himself in a window, to see the fallen hero pass in a cart to receive judgment. On the Restoration, he fell a victim to his *manes*. It was intended that he should undergo the same ignominious death, which was afterwards changed to that of beheading. "I could," says he, "die like a Roman, but I choose rather to die like a Christian." He fell with heroism, in his last moments with truth exculpating himself from having any concern in the murder of his royal master; and calming his conscience with the opinion, that his criminal compliances were but the epidemic disease and fault of his times. His guilt of treason is indisputable; but the acts of grace in 1641 and 1651 ought certainly to have secured him from capital punishment."

HERE is likewise a good head of his son, the Earl of Argyle, whose character was the very reverse of his father's; he was steady and virtuous, but unfortunate, and firm to his trust though all the misfortunes of his Prince, Charles II. When appointed colonel of his guards in 1650, he scorned to receive his commission from the tyrannical states of his country, and insisted on having it from his Majesty alone. In all his actions, he preserved a patriotic, yet loyal moderation; but in 1681, delivering in an explanation of an oath he was to take, as a test not to attempt any alteration in church or state, he was disgraced, tried, and condemned; and the infamous sentence would have been executed, if he had not escaped from the power of his enemies. In 1685, in concert with the Duke of Monmouth, he made a fatal attempt to restore the liberties of his country, then invaded by James the Second. He failed in his design, and was put to death on his former sentence.

ON the day of his execution, he ate his dinner, and took his afternoon's nap with his usual composure, falling with a calmness and constancy suitable to the goodness of his life.

THE old residence of the Argyle family was a very large and strong castle, within a small distance of the present one, towards the river, which has been taken down within these thirty years.*

* It was inhabited about the latter end of the fourteenth century, by Colin, surnamed *Jongallach*, or the *Wonderful*, on account of his marvellous exploits and odd

The hills were formerly naked, and the grounds possessed the savage roughness common to the uncultivated parts of this country; and it does not appear that any thing considerable was done towards the improvement and embellishment of the place till about the middle of the last century, when the Marquis of Argyle, before mentioned, began to plant a few trees, and project some other improvements: it is probable, however, that he was early diverted from this purpose, by the confusion of the times, and that nothing was afterwards done till the re-establishment of the Earl his son, which took place some time between the years 1663 and 1670. During the short period of his possession, it appears that he had particularly bent his thoughts towards beautifying the family seat; almost the whole of the oldest trees about Inverary are of his planting, and remain a signal instance of his good taste and discernment, respecting what was best adapted to the nature of the soil and climate. Some of the most admired avenues, rows of trees and plantations, were designed by him, and plainly show, that had he lived longer he would have done much.

SINCE the beginning of the present century, the several successors to the estate and honours of Argyle have been particularly attentive to extending their plantations, and embellishing the place.

whims; among which may be mentioned the burning of his house at Inverary, on receiving a visit from the O'Niels of Ireland, that he might have a pretence to entertain his illustrious guests in his splendid field equipage. (Pennant's Tour.)

THE present estate was begun about the year 1745, by ARCHIBALD Duke of ARGYLE: he however finished little more than the shell; the rebellion breaking out at that time, interrupted the work. It was, in a few years afterwards, resumed and finished. Since that time, large sums have been annually expended by his successors, the late and present Duke, in improvements and decorations. It is said that the money laid out since 1745, in planting, improving, making roads, and other works of utility and decoration, about Inverary Castle, amounts to 250,000*l.* and that the present Duke, since his accession to the estate, has expended at least 3,000*l.* per annum in this way.* Indeed, every walk you take in the environs of this noble mansion surprizes you with the immense quantity of wood by which it is surrounded. It was long since valued at 100,000*l.* but from the increase in growth, and the advanced price of timber, I should suppose it must be worth near twice that sum. The thinning of the wood, to allow the remaining trees room to grow, produces not less than 1,500*l.* annually. The poor in the neighbourhood are allowed to take the rotten branches, and what may be called the droppings of the trees, and many of them collect the fallen leaves for their beds.

HAVING seen what was remarkable about the castle, we walked along the side of the Arey, which we crossed by a bridge a little beyond the castle, and keeping to the right, came to a

* Statistical Account of Inverary.

spot on the base of Dunicoich, near a gate leading to an avenue. Here we obtained that view of the castle, town, and loch, which is presented to the reader, and which is unquestionably a beautiful scene. From hence is a winding walk to the summit of the hill, whence there is a fine view of the pleasure grounds, or what in Scotland is called the policy of the Duke, extending near thirty miles in circumference. Instead of going up the hill at this time, however, we went through the gate, and down an avenue, formed by some of the noblest trees I had seen; having walked a little more than a mile along this avenue, we came in sight of Dub Loch, a deep and dark fresh water lake, communicating with Loch Fyne by a small river about a quarter of a mile in length, which we crossed by a bridge when we came first to Inverary. This lake is abundantly stocked with the finest fish, and the family always amply supplied from it. The lake lies at the bottom of a very picturesque glen, called Glen Shira, in which, at about two miles distance from Inverary, are the Duke's drying barns, well deserving a visit from the curious.

These buildings have been found very useful in so wet a climate, for by means of them hay may be made, or corn dried, during the heaviest rains. The building stands across the valley, and is of a circular form, and so contrived as to cause a draught of air even in calm weather, there being open arches, opposite to each other, through the whole building. It is divided into two stories, and the upper one is used for drying; the lower

Autumn.

consisting of cow-houses and other conveniences. The floor of the upper story is made of small boards or battens, about an inch distant from each other, to receive the benefit of the air below. There are likewise openings in the sides of the walls at convenient heights, to receive the hay and corn from the carts. On this floor the grass is laid soon after it is cut; a few hands serve to turn it over for two or three days, when it is found perfectly dry, and of a much finer flavour than hay dried by the hot sun. In this story are jointed frames of wood, suspended from the roof, at convenient distances from each other. These frames have a number of sharp pointed pegs on each side of them, inclining upwards; upon each of which a sheaf of corn is hung to dry. The frames, by means of joints, are lowered down to receive the corn; and when the drying is finished, they are moved up again to be out of the way. The Duke's whole harvest in wet seasons, and some of it in all seasons, is dried in this manner. A particular description, with a plan of these barns, is given by Dr. Smith of Campbeltown, in his valuable Agricultural Survey of Argyleshire.

His Grace has been so fully convinced of the utility of this mode of drying, that he has fitted up several small barns for that purpose, in the immediate vicinity of Inverary. The barns have several small beams running parallel to each other across the breadth of the room; from these are suspended a great number of long poles filled with pegs, on which the sheaves are hung.

INDEED we were informed that the present Duke is particularly attentive to every thing that can tend to the improvement of agriculture, or the management of cattle. He performs many experiments which are necessary for the perfection of agriculture, but which could not be ventured on by petty farmers.

IT is much to be wished that in other parts of this country, where the harvest is late, and the weather at best uncertain, and generally wet, such contrivances for drying were more common; the expense is, however, an obstacle to their introduction; but covered sheds might be erected, which would afford a good substitute. The corn in the west highlands is often cut down before it is perfectly ripe, and can scarcely ever be well dried by exposure in the open fields.

THE town of Inverary is but small, consisting chiefly of one street, and a range of houses facing the lake: they are built with uniformity, and a good idea of them may be formed from the inspection of the print. The whole town, excepting one house, belongs to the Duke, who gives leases of ground to build upon, for three nineteen years, at a small rent. The houses are commodious, well built, and covered with slate.

A CONSIDERABLE part of the town, and all that part of it fronting Loch Fyne, was built by the Duke. About twenty years ago the old town, which was a dirty ill-built village, standing

on the north end of the bay, and part of it in the lawn before the castle, on the banks of the river, was removed, and rebuilt in its present situation.

It seems probable, that, prior to the beginning of the fourteenth century, the town of Inverary was little more than a place for fishermen, who lived by their occupation, and had erected their huts there; about that period, the family of Argyle fixed upon it as their residence. It was erected into a royal burgh by charter from King Charles I. in the year 1648. The only revenues belonging to it as a burgh arise from some petty customs, among which is a small toll on cattle passing through to the lowland or English markets, which amount on an average to about 4,000 annually, and the rent of a common, which, on the first erection of the burgh, was bestowed upon it by the family of Argyle. Both these produce about 30*l.* annually. About fifty years ago, Archibald, Duke of Argyle, seeing how inadequate this revenue was for the occasions of the burgh, added to it a perpetual annuity of twenty pounds per annum.*

The house seen on the right, in the view of Inverary, is the inn, a very good building; in the middle of the range is the town house, likewise a handsome structure: between these buildings is an iron gate, opening to a long and dark avenue of aged elms, which leads to a gloomy and romantic glen, about two miles distant, called *Essachosan*; at the top of the glen is a pretty cas-

* Stat. Report of Inverary.

cade. The woody hills surrounding it abound with roebucks, and are composed of granite; the lower parts consist of a fine silvery micaceous schistus, and a soft micaceous steatite.

In our way to Essachosan, a curiosity in the vegetable kingdom, called the marriage tree, was pointed out to us. It is, if I recollect right, a lime, and very large, consisting of two principal branches, that have separated a few feet only above the ground; and have each grown to so immense a magnitude, that their weight must long since have disunited them, but for the following remarkable circumstance: at the height of about twenty feet, a strong branch has pushed out of one of the main branches, and grown firmly to the other; and so complete is the junction, that it is impossible to say from which trunk the branch has proceeded, for it seems to have come from each. A sketch will express this junction better than words.

By this strong bond of union, the two main branches are kept together. Does not this appear an instance of design in vegetables, consequent on some degree of perceptivity ?*

* Whether it may be called an instance of design, or instinct, the author conceives is immaterial; but he thinks it is analogous to many actions performed by animals. The calf, when it first comes into the world, applies to the teats of the cow, though ignorant of the taste and nutritious quality of the milk; and the duckling, which has been hatched under a hen, at a distance from water, discovers a constant restlessness and impatience; and is observed to practise all the motions of swimming, though a stranger to its future destination, and to the element for which its oily feathers and web-like feet are alike formed. These are adduced as proofs of instinct by Dr. Percival. (Memoirs of the Manchester Society, vol. ii.) And indeed they evidently show the performance of actions necessary to the well-being, and even existence, of the individual. That such actions or instincts operate with equal energy on the vegetable tribe, the instance before us would seem to show; and others similar to it may be mentioned. Lord Kames, in his Gentleman Farmer, mentions a variety of instances of this kind in vegetables, one of which is something analogous to the marriage tree. Among the ruins of New Abbey, formerly a monastery in Galloway, says this author, there grows on the top of the wall, a plane-tree about twenty feet high: straitened for nourishment in that barren situation, it several years ago directed roots down the side of the wall, till they had reached the ground, ten feet below; and now the nourishment it afforded to these roots are amply repaid, having every year since that time, made vigorous shoots. From the top of the wall to the surface of the earth, these roots have not thrown out a single fibre, but are now united into a pretty thick root. (Gentleman Farmer, p. 417.) While we were viewing the house and grounds of Rosdoe, on Loch Lomond, I observed an instance very similar to this. Upon a high wall, not far from the house, is a quantity of ivy, which being straitened for nourishment, has sent down roots in a direct line to the ground, which roots have enabled the ivy to grow more luxuriantly in this place than on any other part of the wall.

Dr. Percival says, that whilst engaged in a course of experiments to ascertain the effects of fixed air *(carbonic acid)* on vegetation, the following fact occurred to him. A sprig of mint suspended by the root, with the head downwards, in the middle glass vessel of Dr. Nooth's machine, continued to thrive vigorously, without any other pabulum than what was supplied by the stream of gas, to which it was exposed. In twenty four hours, the stem formed into a curve, the head became erect, and gradually ascended towards the mouth of the vessel; thus producing, by successive efforts, a new and unusual configuration of its parts. (Manchester Memoirs, vol. ii.)

FROM Essachosen, we returned by a different avenue to the town, which led us by a fine spring that supplies Inve-

Such exertions in a sprig of mint, to rectify its inverted position, and to remove from a foreign to a natural element, seems to evince a volition to avoid what is evil, and to recover what had been experienced to be good. If a plant in a garden pot be placed in a room, which has no light, excepting what is admitted through a small perforation in the wall, it will shoot towards the hole, pass through it into the open air, and then vegetate upwards in its proper direction. Innumerable other instances, similar to these, might be given, but I would not wish to tire the patience of the reader: those who are inclined to consider this curious subject with more attention, may consult Lord Kames's Gentleman Farmer, Appendix, Article III. Dr. Percival's Essay on the Perceptivity of Vegetables, in the second volume of the Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, and the fifth volume of Bishop Watson's Chemical Essays. One instance more, and I have done: the *Dionæa muscipula* is a native of North Carolina. Its leaves are numerous, bending downwards, and placed in a circular order; they are jointed and succulent; the upper joint consists of two lobes, each of which is semi-oval in its form, with a margin furnished with stiff hairs; these lobes embrace each other, when they close from any irritation.

The surfaces of the lobes are covered with small red glands, probably to secrete some sweet liquor, tempting to the taste, but fatal to the lives of insects; for the moment a fly alights on those parts, the two lobes rise up, grasp it forcibly, lock the rows of spines together, and squeeze it to death; and, lest the struggles for life should disengage the insect thus entangled, three small spines are fixed among the glands, near the middle of each lobe, which effectually put an end to all its efforts; nor do the lobes open again while the dead animal continues there. (Darwin's Botanic Garden.) The dissolution of the substance of the fly, is supposed by naturalists to constitute part of the nourishment of this plant; and as the instances are innumerable where animals feed upon plants, this seems to afford an example of retaliation. A British plant, the *Drosera*, very much resembles the *Dionæa muscipula*, not only in the form of its leaves, but in its killing flies and other insects, as I have before mentioned in the description of Benlomond. In short, the principle of life seems very universally diffused, but is bestowed on different beings in different degrees. To animals is given the largest share; but throughout the whole animal kingdom one species descends below another, in the perfection of its mental powers, as well as its organic sensations. This progression is so very gradual, that the most perfect of an inferior species, approaches indefinitely near to the most imperfect of that which is above it. The chain is continued, by imperceptible links, between animals and vegetables, and perhaps even to the mineral kingdom.

rary with water. Over the spring is built a grotto in a suitable style.

NEAR the center of the town of Inverary, is a monument not long since erected to the memory of several gentlemen of the name of CAMPBELL, who were massacred at one time near the spot. The circumstance is as follows;—It has been already noticed, that the amiable and patriotic Earl of Argyle, in the year 1685, joined the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion. After that unfortunate expedition, a neighbouring clan was deputed by government to carry destruction through the whole clan of Campbell: and, as Mr. Pennant says, was let slip, armed with the dreadful writ of fire and sword, to act at discretion among the unhappy people. Seventeen gentlemen of respectability, of the name of Campbell, were taken at Inverary, and instantly executed without even the formality of a trial. The monument contains an inscription, commemorating, with a moderation that does honour to the writer, the justice of the cause in which his relatives fell.

BESIDES this monument, there stands in the plain before the castle, a long rude pillar of stone, said to have been erected to their memory. In many parts of the highlands, similar stones point out the burial place of some hero, but of much earlier date; and I think there can be no doubt that this stone has been erected at a period much more remote than the massacre of the Campbells.

INVERARY is so situated in the highlands, that as many of the inhabitants speak English as Gaelic; there are therefore two ministers, one who officiates in English, and the other in Gaelic. Two new churches under one roof are building, from a very handsome design by Mr. MILNE, which, when finished, will have a good effect. They are built of a kind of porphyry, with a reddish ground, containing a number of crystals of feld-spar, of a lighter colour, some crystals of black shorl, and a few of quartz. It is a very hard stone, and found in great plenty in a quarry on the road to Dalmaly, where it lies over a bed of schistus, under which is a bed of fine marble which is burned to lime.

THOUGH Inverary is tolerably well situated for manufactures, none are carried on to any very great extent. Archibald, Duke of Argyle, about the year 1748, introduced the linen manufacture into the neighbourhood, and it has been attended with very beneficial consequences; about the year 1776, the present Duke established a woollen manufacture, and, at a considerable expense, erected proper buildings and machinery, and provided every material for carrying it on successfully. At the same time, as an additional encouragement, he gave the farm on which the factory is built, at a very low rent, and even took some shares in the concern, contributing every thing in his power to insure the success of so patriotic an undertaking.

This plan, so nobly set on foot by the Duke, was seconded by many gentlemen of the county, who nobly seconded the manufacturers at 2½ per cent. Notwithstanding which, and that his Grace gave the use of the whole buildings and machinery gratis, the business has not by any means been conducted with advantage, a circumstance much to be lamented; for since the introduction of sheep into Argyleshire, the county has in some degree been depopulated, and the manufacture, had it succeeded, would not only have given employment to the hands turned from the farms, but would have added considerably to the wealth of the country, by exporting its wool in a manufactured, instead of a raw state: indeed I suppose that the greatest part of the cloth manufactured here, which was of the coarse kind, would have been sold in the country. It is certainly a disadvantage to a country, where its inhabitants want employment, to sell the raw material, and then purchase it when it has been manufactured, after having gone through several hands, each of whom must have his profit.

Inverary, however, possesses one source of riches, of which the people do not fail to avail themselves, I mean the herring fishery in Loch Fyne. This lake, extending more than thirty miles from the western ocean into the country, has been from time immemorial noted for its herrings, which are superior in quality to any found in the western seas. The harbour of Inverary was anciently called *Slochk Ichopper*, signifying the bay where vessels bought or bartered for fish; and there is still

represented in the shield of the arms of the burgh, a net with a herring, with this motto, " Semper tibi pendeat halec."*

THE herring fishery commonly begins in July, and sometimes continues till the first of January. It had just commenced when we came hither, and was a scene of life, bustle, and activity. The lake is generally at this time frequented by innumerable shoals. The country people express the quantities of herring abounding here, in very strong language; at these seasons, say they, the lake contains one part of water, and two parts of fish. In this single bay of the lake, five or six hundred boats are sometimes employed in taking them, and the groups of these little fishing vessels, with their circling nets, make a beautiful moving picture.

FROM the best information, it is believed, that there have been caught and cured in some seasons, upwards of 20,000 barrels, valued at twenty-five shillings each.

PART of each boat is covered with a kind of sail-cloth, to form a covering for the four men who compose the crew: this is represented in the view of Loch Loung. These men may be said to live in their boat the whole of the fishing season, for they seldom quit it during that time. The inhabitants of Inverary, and of the banks of the Loch, do indeed spend Sunday at home; but as the greatest number of boats come from other parts of

* Stat. Report of Inverary.

Scotland into the Loch, for the sake of fishing, the crews seldom quit them, and they live chiefly upon herring during their abode in the boats. The night is the time of fishing; the day is employed in gutting the fish they have taken, in sleep, or in singing Celtic tales to the sound of the bag-pipe. Each boat clears upon an average, between 40*l.* and 50*l.* and in some very good seasons 100*l.* besides a quantity of fish which they reserve for their own families.

In the evening, a number of boats form a line, almost across the Loch, and uniting their nets, produce a chain often more than a hundred fathoms long. The herrings swim at very uncertain depths, so that it is necessary to sink the nets to the depth the shoal is known to take. Hence it is evident, that the success of the fishers must in a great measure depend on their judgment or good fortune, in taking the proper depths; for it will frequently happen, that the nets of one boat will be full of herrings, whilst those of others scarcely take a single fish. Sometimes the fish swim in twenty fathom water, sometimes fifty, and sometimes even at the bottom of the Loch. The nets are kept up by buoys, consisting of blown bladders, or leather bags filled with air; the ropes that run through them are fastened with pegs, by means of which they can easily adjust them.

They often boil or soak their nets in a strong decoction of oak bark, which prevents their putrefaction in the water.

When they have caught as many as they can during the night, they gut them, and throw them into a tub, with a sprinkling of salt: they are then closely packed in barrels, with alternate layers of salt: and after standing in this manner for a few weeks, they are repacked into other barrels, and sent to different parts of the world.

This is the case with by much the greater part that are taken; but many are sent fresh to Glasgow, Stirling, and indeed to almost all parts of the country. In the middle of the season, two or three hundred horses and a great many carts are brought every day to the banks of Loch Fyne for fresh herrings. We ate some at Inverary which had been taken out of the water the preceding evening—they were delicious.

A barrel holds about 500 of the best kind of herrings, but 700 at a medium; if the number be greater, they are reckoned poor. The guts afford a considerable quantity of oil.

The herring fisheries in the highlands and isles should be encouraged by every possible means; not only because it is an excellent nursery of seamen, but because it is the only way in which these barren countries can acquire wealth and population. The poverty of the soil will prevent agricultural improvements beyond a certain and very limited extent, and the want of fuel, with the impossibility of raising any great quantity of provisions, will prevent the carrying on of manufactures upon a very extensive scale:

but the fisheries are an inexhaustible fund of wealth, and can be carried to any extent whatever. In Glasgow, Paisley, and other parts of the low countries, manufactures are conducted on a noble scale; they are sources of immense wealth to many, and of employment to hundreds of thousands; still, however, these must have their bounds: but what bounds can be set to the herring fisheries, if under judicious regulations? There can be no doubt that larger fortunes might be acquired in the bleak highlands, and dreary wilds of the Hebrides, by the herring fishery, properly conducted, than have ever been done by the cotton manufactory in the low countries.

THIS is the true source of wealth to these parts of the kingdom; and if attended to, as its importance calls for, will fill all the indented shores of North Britain with population, wealth, and every comfort and convenience of life.

IN order to see this more clearly, let us take a slight view of the migration of herrings, and of the immense shoals which frequent this country. The following account chiefly is taken from Knox's View of the British Empire.

HERRINGS, as well as mackarel, codfish, whitings, haddocks, and some others, may, with propriety, be called fish of passage, for they bear a strong analogy to birds of that description, both from their social disposition, and their immense numbers. Other fish reside on our coasts, and live in particu-

lar lakes and rivers, all the year round: but these, at stated seasons, visit the shores with regular certainty, generally returning the same week in the succeeding year, and not unfrequently the same day.

HERRINGS are found in the greatest abundance in the highest northern latitudes, within the arctic circle. In these inaccessible seas, which are covered with ice during by much the greatest part of the year, the herrings find a quiet and sure retreat from their numerous enemies; there neither all-devouring man, who makes the inhabitants of earth, air, and water, his prey, nor that still more destructive enemy, the whale, dare to pursue them. Here, however, they were not intended to remain in security, but were destined by the Author of nature to serve the purpose of supplying myriads of created beings with food, and for this purpose, an insurmountable instinct prompts them to leave their secure retreats.

THE great colony of herring sets out from the icy sea, about the middle of winter, composed of such numbers as exceed all the powers of imagination, but no sooner do they leave their glassy dominions, than millions of enemies appear to thin their squadrons. The sun-fish and the cachalot devour hundreds at a mouthful: the porpus, the grampus, cod-fish, haddocks, as well as the whole tribe of dog-fish, find them an easy prey; and the ravenous shark desists from pursuing the above-mentioned fish, to attack the herring: besides these enemies in their own

element, they meet with others still more formidable in the myriads of sea-fowl inhabiting the regions near the pole, that watch the out-set of the migration, and spread extensive ruin.

THUS besieged on every side, the defenceless emigrants find no safety but in crowding closer together, and leaving to the outmost bands the danger of being first devoured. The main body begins, at a certain latitude, to separate into two grand divisions; one of which moves westward, and pours down the coasts of America, as far south as Carolina, and are often so numerous in the Chesapeak Bay, as to become a nuisance to the shores. The other division takes a more eastern direction, towards Europe, and falls in with the great island of Iceland about the beginning of March; upon their arrival on that coast, their phalanx, though it has already suffered considerable diminution, is nevertheless found to be of amazing extent, depth, and closeness, occupying a surface, equal at least to the dimensions of both Great Britain and Ireland, but subdivided into columns of five or six miles in length, and three or four in breadth; each division, or column, being led, according to the idea of the most experienced fishermen, by herrings of more than ordinary size, older perhaps than the others, and having made a considerable number of voyages, may be capable of conducting their different bands to their destined places.

THEY generally swim near the surface, but sink now and then for a few minutes. The leaders of those which visit the British kingdoms, appear off Shetland in April or May, and the

grand body begins to be perceived in June. The fishers are apprized of their coming by a small rippling of the water, the reflection of their brilliancy, and the great number of gannets or Solan geese, and other aërial persecutors, which feast richly on this offered bounty; and, along with the whales and other fish, may be one cause of the shoals crowding into bays and creeks, where they are caught by fishermen with so much ease.

When they arrive at the Shetland Islands, new enemies await them; whole fleets of fishing vessels, with all the apparatus of netting, are in readiness, on a fixed day, to drag the ocean; thereby snatching from the shoals, perhaps millions every night, from June till September.

The Shetland Islands, where the herrings meet with the first interruption to their progress southwards, lie at the distance of 100 miles due north from the main land of Scotland; and extend near 60 miles in length; and though these islands break and separate the great body of herrings into two parts, the wanderers still continue their course southward. One division proceeds down the east side of Britain; goes along the Murray Firth, the coasts of Aberdeen, Angus, and Fife; the great river Forth, the coast of Scarborough, and particularly the far-projecting land at Yarmouth, the ancient and only mart for herrings in England; here they appear in October, and are found in considerable quantities till Christmas: passing through the channel, some of them pay a slight visit to the north coast

of France, but are so exhausted and impoverished as to be of little or no use.

THE other brigade shape their course from the Shetland Islands, along the west coast of Britain, and these are observed to be much larger and fatter, as well as considerably more abundant, than those on the east side. After passing the Shetland and Orkney Isles, they crowd in amazing quantities into the lakes, bays, and narrow channels of the shires of Sutherland, Ross, and Inverness; which, with the Hebrides, compose the greatest stationary herring fishing in Great Britain, excepting that upon the coast of Shetland.

SOMETIMES this shoal edges close upon the extensive coast of Argyleshire, and fills every bay and creek; and almost always the Firth of Clyde, Loch Fyne, Loch Loung, and other arms of the sea; the coast of Airshire and of Galloway, even to the head of Solway Firth. Having performed this friendly office to the western shores of Scotland, the shoal proceeds towards the north of Ireland; where, meeting with another interruption, they are subdivided into two bodies. One passes down the Irish Channel, visits the Isle of Man, where they are caught in great abundance, and affords an occasional supply to the east coast of Ireland, and sometimes to the west coast of England, as far as Bristol Channel. The other shoal skirts along the west coast of Ireland, where, after visiting some of the lakes particularly in the county of Donnegal, it gradually disappears, and is finally

lost in the immensity of the Atlantic.—So bountiful, as Mr. Knox observes, is Providence to the inhabitants of the British Isles, in one article of food only.

THOUGH there can be no doubt that the ultimate design of this migration, is to supply the northern parts of Europe and America with food, and thus atone for the seeming partiality of Nature to more southern climes, the immediate cause of it is their strong desire to remove to warmer seas, for the sake of depositing their spawn, where it will vivify with more certainty than under the frigid zone. It cannot be from defect of food that they leave the polar region, whatever that food may be, for they come to us full of fat, and on their return are generally observed to be very lean. They are in full roe at the end of June, and continue in perfection till the commencement of winter, when they begin to deposit their spawn.

BLESSED as this country is with shoals of fish, and possessing such advantages for carrying on the fisheries, comparatively little has been done by the highlanders in this trade. What has been performed, was done by individuals in a small way, very few private capitals having been employed. Indeed, till within a very few years, the chief of our fisheries, viz. those in the Shetland Isles, have been in the hands of a people who possess no natural advantages. To these fisheries on our own coasts, the Dutch chiefly owe their wealth, or, at any rate, they have been the means by which this industrious people raised them-

selves to a state of opulence. Originally they appear to have been nothing more than fishermen, collected from different quarters of the world, to a place where they could enjoy freedom of traffic; and living in huts erected upon a spot called Damsluys, they there pursued with industry, and under wise and excellent regulations, the herring fisheries on the British coasts; sold their fish to many parts of the world, and brought back commodities themselves wanted, and merchandize which they exported to different parts; so that their ships were never empty, but always loaded wherever they went, with some object of traffic. Sir William Monson, speaking of their ships being thus constantly employed, aptly compares them to a weaver's shuttle, which he casts from one hand to another, and which he keeps ever in action, till the gain appears by the cloth that he makes. By persevering in this industrious mode of life, the poor fishing village of Damsluys gradually increased: as the inhabitants gained means, the huts were converted into comfortable habitations, these into splendid dwellings, and the whole became, by degrees, metamorphosed into the opulent city of Amsterdam.

THE disadvantages they labour under are great; but industry overcomes every obstacle, and converts the most barren spots into seats of plenty. Their own country is so poor in natural productions, that for almost every article requisite to conduct these fisheries they have recourse to foreign nations. Their timber for ship-building, their iron, hemp, cordage, barrels,

and even their bread, is brought from other countries; while Scotland supplies most of them, and England all. They have, besides, a considerable navigation to make to come at the fisheries, and at a stormy season of the year, while we have the fish at our own doors. Notwithstanding these advantages in our favour, the Dutch have, till lately, been the only persons who profited by them, as appears from different accounts.

ACCORDING to Sir WALTER RALEIGH, in the year 1603, the Dutch sold to different nations, as many herrings as amounted to 1,759,000l. In the year 1615, they employed in this fishery, 2,000 busses, and 37,000 fishermen. In 1618, they sent no less than 3,000 busses, with 50,000 men to the herring fisheries; besides this, 9,000 other vessels were employed to transport and sell the fish, which last occupations employed 150,000 men by sea and land, in addition to those immediately engaged in the fisheries. Thus did our industrious neighbours increase the number of their vessels and seamen, supply half the world with food, and raise themselves to opulence at our expense.*

* It appears by some accurate statements made by Sir W. Monson, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Lucius O'Brian, and others, that the number of herrings sold by the Dutch to foreign nations is astonishing. In four provinces within the Sound, viz. Koningsberg, Melvin, Stetin, and Dantzic, according to accounts which have been taken from Custom-house books, and may therefore be depended upon, they annually vended between 30 and 40,000 lasts of herrings, worth more than 620,000*l.* while we did not send a single fish.

To Denmark, Norway, Narpe, Sweden, Regel, and other places within the Sound, they annually sent above 10,000 lasts, value 160,000*l.* To Russia they sent 1500 lasts, worth 27,000*l.*; while we sent only to the same places between 30 and 40 lasts.

It is to the Shetland Islands that the Dutch have chiefly resorted, and a particular account of the manner in which they conduct their fisheries there, is given by Sir W. Monson.

From the Texel to Brasound, in Shetland, is upwards of 230 leagues. To the latter place, about the 20th of June, at least 2000 fishing vessels in his time resorted. On the 24th they put to sea, being prohibited till that day, under a severe penalty, as the herrings are before that not thought fit for salting.

Each of these vessels on that day, directs its course to find out the shoal of herrings; when they have laden their busses, they return to Holland, and leave their cargo, which is immediately repacked, and sent to the Baltic, and other parts of the world.

As soon as the busses have furnished themselves with victuals, casks, and salt, they revisit the shoal they have left, and filling again as quickly as possible, return to Holland to unload; this they generally do three times in the season, and during that

To towns upon the river Elbe, they sent above 6000 lasts annually, worth 100,000*l.* while we sent none to the same places.

To Cleveland, Juliers, Frankfort, Cologne, and different parts of Germany, 22,000 lasts, amounting to 440,000*l.* while we sent none.

To Guelderland, Artois, Hainhaut, Brabant, and Flanders, 8 or 9000 lasts, worth 160,000*l.* and we none.

To Rouen, in Normandy, 500 lasts, value 10,000*l.* while we only send 100 lasts. Thus, says Sir W. Monson, so many thousands of lasts of fish taken on our own coasts, have been sold by them, and so many hundreds of thousands of pounds produced, while we could not give an account of more than 150 lasts, value 3000*l.*!

period, on the most moderate computation, each buss takes 100 lasts of herring, which being valued only at 10*l.* the last, amounts to 1000*l.* for each vessel.

THE fishing fleet is often attended by certain vessels called Yawgers, that carry salt, casks, and victuals, to truck with the busses for their herrings, which they carry directly to the Baltic.

I SHOULD not have been thus particular in describing the herring fisheries, since it has been done by persons much better acquainted with the subject, did I not conceive it to be the duty of every one to lose no opportunity of impressing the minds of the public, with the necessity of encouraging this source of wealth and national prosperity. Public spirited men, and bodies of men, have at different times seen the utility of it, and have, for a while, made exertions in the cause; but sufficient perseverance has been wanting. The country is infinitely indebted to Mr. KNOX, whose laborious exertions to promote this end are well known. He laid the foundation of the society for the encouragement of the fisheries, which will, I hope, in time be attended with the wished-for success. If any of my readers are desirous of acquiring more information on this subject, I would recommend to their attention, his accurate "View of the British Empire;" a work to which I am indebted for many of these observations on the fisheries.

As connected intimately with the improvement of the fisheries, as well as with Loch Fyne, on whose banks I fear the reader will think he has been too long detained, I may here mention the Crinan Canal, first projected, I believe, by Mr. Knox. This canal, which will be so important in its consequences to the whole kingdom, but particularly to the highlands, is nearly completed, but is, I am informed, at present almost at a stop for want of money. It is to be hoped, that in a very short time, however, the work will be resumed with spirit. A vessel coming from any of the highland ports, for instance, Oban, into the Clyde, which is the great mart for the disposal of the produce of the highlands, must go entirely round by the Mull of Cantyre, a narrow peninsula that stretches forty miles from the main land of Scotland, in a southern direction, till it approaches within twenty miles of the county of Antrim in Ireland. The distance from Greenock to the promontory or Mull,* as it is called, is above sixty miles in a south-west direction; but if we include the course of the shipping thither, the islands to be avoided, the tacks and evolutions occasioned by contrary winds, and lee-shores, the voyages from Greenock to the Mull of Cantyre may, on an average, be estimated at eighty miles each; which, being all in a direction contrary to the intended port, requires an equal, or nearly equal navigation on the opposite side of the Cape, till the vessels get into the same latitude with Greenock. This occasions an extra navigation of 120

* Mull, or Maoil, in Gaelic signifies a Cape.

miles, or 240 miles northward and homeward, to every vessel or boat going to the west highlands from the Clyde. Now it is evident, that the wind which favoured their voyage to the Mull of Cantyre, becomes adverse after having doubled the Cape; they must therefore either lie to, or if a boat, work at their oars, through a heavy sea up the Firth of Clyde, probably for many days before they reach the intended port. Having disposed of their small cargo of skins, bark, or fish, in their return, they have to combat the same difficulties and dangers: and when we consider the almost incessant gales, the lee-shores, rocks, numerous islands, sands, and currents, attending this navigation, we can easily see that, besides the loss of time and money which it occasions, it is extremely hazardous to the poor natives, many of whom perish every year.

Now if the reader will cast his eye upon Loch-Fyne in the map, he will perceive, at the part where it turns eastward, a small projecting arm called Loch Gilp, and opposite to it, in the sound of Jura, another arm called Loch Crinan; the distance between these two arms is only five miles, and it is through this isthmus that the canal is to be cut. This work, it is evident, will save a great deal of time to vessels coming from the west highlands into the Clyde, and will likewise avoid the dangers and other inconveniences attending a passge by the Mull of Cantyre. Indeed, if we may be allowed the comparison, it will, when completed, be as great an acquisition to the highlands, as a cut through the isthmus of Suez would be to Europe. It has

been begun on a large scale, being sixty feet wide, and twelve deep. The expense is estimated at about 80,000*l.*

THE pubic spirit of the undertakers of this canal, is highly to be praised; but it is to be wished that it had been a national work, and that no more dues were charged on vessels going through it, than might be necessary to keep it in repair; for though it will be a work of great utility to the highlands, yet the number of vessels passing through, would not, at least for some time, be very great; so that in order to obtain a moderate interest for the money, a high duty must be laid, and probably more than many of the highland boats can afford to pay. Indeed, the craft which would chiefly navigate this canal, are small boats passing to and from the Clyde, with cargoes seldom amounting to twenty pounds each; and money is such an object to these poor people, that, to save a tonnage of five shillings, they would risk the voyage by the Mull of Cantyre.

THE higland canals, like the highland roads, ought to be public works. Were the roads in the highlands supported by a toll, I should suppose that half-a-crown, or five shillings a horse, would be necessary to pay the interest of the money laid out in forming them, so few are the travellers, and yet good roads are absolutely necessary.* Such objects are undoubtedly national, and the expense to the nation would be trifling.

* Some idea of the very few travellers on these roads may be formed, when it is mentioned, that, during the first three weeks of our tour in the highlands, we did not meet a single traveller, either on horseback or in a carriage.

I KNOW not whether to make any apology for this long digression, but those who think the subject of no importance, may pass it over, and continue the tour.

AFTER seeing every thing worth notice at Inverary, we spent the evening with Mr. M'GIBBON, whose politeness and hospitality deserve at least to be acknowledged; and on the 14th, early in the morning, we set off for Dalmaly, at the head of Loch Awe, sixteen miles distant from Inverary. Our object was to get to Oban, and we could have crossed the lake by a ferry at Port Sonachan, which would have saved some time, but we wished to see more of this beautiful lake, which we were told was the rival of Loch Lomond.

THE first part of the road was pleasant, leading through the Duke's plantations. About three miles from Inverary, the river Arey tumbling over rugged rocks, forms a good cascade: it is close by the side of the road, and facing a gate leading to it is a small cottage, that serves the purpose of a porter's lodge. A wooden bridge is thrown over the river, just above the fall, which we passed to reach a point on the other side, that gave us a good view of it. We were told that the Duke intends building a temple or grotto here, from whence the cascade may be conveniently seen.

SOON after leaving this cascade, we left also the Duke's plantations, and our ride was not for some miles by any means inte-

resting; the hills are in general bleak and barren. In this country sheep have taken the place of black cattle, and are said to be more profitable. The only habitations we saw, were the cottages of shepherds, and the smoke issuing from h eir doors, gave no very exalted idea of their neatness, or of the purity of the air within.

At Inverary the greater part of the inhabitants burn coal, which they chiefly procure from the neighbourhood of Glasgow, by way of Loch Fyne, but here, as indeed in most parts of the highlands, peat is the only fuel, and in very wet summers, when it is impossible to dry their peats, or get them home if they were dry, on account of the softness of the ground, they are very much distressed. This was particularly the case during the last summer (1797); when very few peats were got in. The more opulent purchased coals at a high price at Inverary, and brought them home; but the distress of the poor, for want of this necessary article through the winter, was very great indeed. Many of them were obliged to burn the little wretched furniture they possessed, to dress their victuals.

At the distance of about eight miles from Inverary, we had the first view of Loch Awe, from an eminence; and our expectations were by no means disappointed, for it is certainly only second to Loch Lomond. The banks, near which the rest of our road lay, consisted of steep mountains very finely wooded. Its smooth surface is broken by islands, many of which are or-

namented with picturesque ruins. Loch Awe is about thirty miles in length, and in some places two miles broad, though the average breadth of it does not exceed one mile. Its surface is 108 feet above the level of the sea: besides the great number of rivulets and streams which run into this lake on both sides, from the neighbouring hills, contrary to most lakes, it receives a considerable river at each extremity, and discharges itself laterally into Loch Etive, an arm of the sea to the north, at a place called Bunaw. The lake abounds with salmon, trout, and some char; it likewise contains plenty of eels, which are held in abhorrence by the common people of the highlands, who consider this delicate fish as a water serpent, unfit for the use of men.*

THE inn of Dalmaly is a very comfortable one, considering its situation. Lord BREADALBANE, whose property it is, ever attentive to the accommodation of travellers, lets the house at a very low rent.

FROM this inn is a view of Glenorchay to the east, a fine valley, moderately wooded, through which the river Urchay winds along for about fourteen miles, and falls into the eastern end of Loch Awe.

AFTER breakfast, we went to call upon Dr. M'INTIRE, the minister of Glenorchay: the manse and church are situated on a beautiful little isle, in the river Urchay, opposite to

* Stat. Account.

the inn of Dalmaly. We were not fortunate enough to meet with the worthy pastor at home, but were hospitably entertained by the Rev. ALEXANDER M'INTIRE, his son, the minister of a neighbouring parish, and by Miss M'INTIRE, a young lady of accomplished manners, and remarkably well informed. She presented us with some highland berries and cream, which were excellent. These berries were the fruit of *Vaccinium myrtillus*, or bilberry whortle, that grows very plentifully in most parts of the highlands, and, when preserved with sugar, they form a conserve, at least equal to any fruit in our gardens.

ON being informed that one of the objects of my tour was mineralogy, Miss M'INTIRE very obligingly selected for me some specimens of minerals collected from the neighbouring hills: among these were some beautiful rock crystal, some large specimens of talc, a few petrefactions, particularly one of a potatoe. With the minerals she likewise sent me some specimens of lead ore, found on the glebe, very near the manse, which is very rich. Beside the minerals above-mentioned, some of which are very common here, cobalt, asbestos, and a very beautiful jasper, have been found in small masses among the rocks and mountains. The island on which the manse stands, consists of a rock of bluish limestone, interspersed with small particles of mica, and veins of calcareous spar; the same kind of limestone is visible in several parts about Dalmaly, generally lying under a stratum of micaceous schistus. The neighbouring hills are chiefly composed of granite.

The church of Glenorchay is old, and in bad repair: in the church-yard are several old tomb-stones, formed of a kind of *lapis ollaris*, with figures of warriors, some armed with spears, and others with two-handed swords. These are supposed to be the tombs of the Macgregors, whose possession and chief residence, as was before observed,* were in the vale of Glenorchay.

Among other tombs in this church-yard, is one of the family of Macnab, a race of blacksmiths, who have resided in the neighbourhood since the year 1440, and have still followed the same profession. A hammer, pincers, and some other implements of the art, are rudely carved upon the tomb-stone. A descendant of this family still lives on an eminence on the south-side of the vale, and, we were informed, is in possession of a manuscript containing several of the poems of Ossian, and other Celtic bards, in their native tongue, which were collected by one of his ancestors. A progenitor of his was first brought hither by Sir Colin Campbell of Loch Awe, to manufacture arms and armour, as well as to perform other necessary parts of smith's work. A line of his posterity have, ever since, continued to follow his profession on the very spot where he first settled.

When every highlander was a soldier, and wore arms, a blacksmith was necessarily a man of consequence. In the simple state of the mechanic arts among these people, that of the

* Page 33.

blacksmith who could forge armour, was the most complex; and the demand for his productions universal. The progress of civilization, however grateful to the feelings of humanity, has certainly been unfavourable to the dignity of the blacksmith. From the forging of armour, his hands have been degraded to the shoeing of horses, and other meaner works, of which there is even so little need, that unless he had a farm, and employed himself in agriculture, this respectable descendant of Vulcan could not perhaps gain a comfortable living.* He still continues to make very beautiful highland dirks.

The Duke of Argyle is the patron of the living; and the present worthy incumbent observes, that in no part of the kingdom has patronage been exercised with more marked attention to the heritors, and people of a parish, than in this country. Settlements against the wish of a majority of parishioners are not known. The following singular fact is the only instance to the contrary, and which, for its singularity, I shall take the liberty to transcribe from Dr. M'Intire's Statistical Account.

"At the Revolution, when presbytery was at last re-established in North Britain, a Mr. Dugald Lindsay was the episcopal minister of Glenorchay. Mr. Lindsay would not conform. Pressed by the synod of Argyle, the noble patron wrote a letter of invitation to a presbyterian probationer in the shire of Perth,

* Heron's Journey through Part of Scotland.

to be minister of Glenorchay. He accepted; came on the close of the week to the parish, but could find no house to receive him, or person to make him welcome. In his distress, he was driven to the house of the man whom he came to supplant, and was received with a cordiality and kindness becoming a minister of the gospel. Over the whole parish there was a strong ferment. People of all ages and conditions assembled, from all quarters, in the church-yard, on Sabbath, long before the usual hour of worship. At the appearance of the stranger, accompanied by their own beloved pastor, there was a general murmur of indignation. Twelve armed men with drawn swords, surrounded the astonished intruder. Two bagpies sounded the *march of death*. Unmoved by the tears and remonstrances of Mr. Lindsay, in this hostile and awful form they proceeded, with their prisoner, to the boundary of the parish, and of the county. There, on his bended knees, he solemnly engaged never more to enter the parish, or trouble any person for the occurrences of that day. He was allowed to depart in peace, and he kept his promise. The synod of Argyle were much incensed; time cooled their ardour; the patron was indulgent, Mr. Lindsay deserving and beloved by the people. He continued in the undisturbed possession of his charge more than thirty years after the aforesaid event."

The occupations of the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Loch Awe, are chiefly pastoral: the country, excepting in the vale of Glenorchay, being very hilly, and better suited to the

support of sheep than agriculture. Almost every person, however, cultivates some oats and barley; the return of the former is not in general above three or four seeds, and of barley six or seven; but potatoes thrive very well here, returning from twelve to twenty fold. For nine months of the year, this useful root makes a great part of the food of the midde and lower ranks of people; and indeed till the general introduction of it into the highlands, which is not very remote, the poor and lower classes pined away near half their time in want and hunger, the country being so little adapted, both from soil and climate, to the growth of grain. The rents have been doubled, and in some places tripled, within the last forty years, but still the situation of the tenants is better than in many parts of the highlands, Lord Breadalbane giving considerable encouragements by leases, without which it is impossible for a tenant to make any advantageous improvements. The wages of servants employed in all the operations of husbandry, have been progressively quadruple what they were fifty years since. The wages of a man-servant boarded in the family are from 5*l.* to 10*l.*; a female from two to four guineas.*

A CONSIDERABLE number of the inhabitants on the banks of the lake, employ themselves in fishing. A little below Dalmaly, at a place called Catnish, great numbers of salmon are taken in the Urchay, in the following manner. A rock crosses the bed of the river, nearly from side to side. Its height is such, that few fish can overleap the torrent; which, after rains, rushes forcibly

* Stat. Account.

into the pool below. Many of the salmon, in attempting to leap, fall into a basket fixed tranversely, and in this way considerable numbers are taken: but the greatest slaughter is effected in a different manner. On the side of the river there is an opening between the rock and the bank; here a wicker gate is fixed, that can be opened and shut at pleasure. Several yards above this entry, the stream is secured by a similar barrier. When the water is high and turbid the fish are let in below, and when the fisherman is satisfied with the number let in, he shuts the doors of his prison, and with his salmon spear drags them out at his leisure. Scores are sometimes thus destroyed in a day.

The old people in this neighbourhood, in general speak only Gaelic, but the younger ones can most of them speak some English, which they learn at school; and it must be observed, that where the English is known in the highlands, it is spoken with much greater correctness and purity than in the south of Scotland, and without the tone and accent of the lowlanders. Superstition is fast wearing away, at least where the clergy are intelligent and liberal, and take pains to discourage such notions, which is particularly the object of the minister of Glenorchay: still, however, most of them believe in witches and ghosts, and some point out with firm credulity, green spots of ground

Where still, 'tis said, the fairy people meet,
Beneath each birken shade on mead or hill.

There each trim lass that skims the milky store,
To the swart tribes, their creamy bowl allots:
By night they sip it round the cottage door,
While airy minstrels warble jocund notes.*

In some parts of the country, the funeral dances are still kept up. These commence on the evening of the death. All the neighbours attend the summons; and the dance, accompanied by a solemn melancholy strain called a lament, is begun by the nearest relatives, who are joined by most of those present: this is repeated every evening till the interment. These dances may perhaps be intended as an expression of joy that their friend is removed from this vale of tears and misery, to a be ter state of existence. We find that most rude nations give vent to their feelings, both on joyful and sorrowful occasions, by dancing and music; in this manner they celebrate the death of warriors, and excite each other to suffer with unshaken firmness. There is something in the idea of dancing to express sorrow, against which the mind accustomed to modern refinement in manners, naturally seems to revolt, but it conveys no absolute impropriety, nor in its consequences does it lead to any moral turpitude or impiety. I cannot say so much with respect to another prevailing custom in the highlands, which is certainly highly indecorous, and destructive of every good principle; I allude to their habit of drinking at funerals. A neighbourhood scarcely ever, I believe, assemble upon these occasions, without raising their

* Collins's Ode on the popular Superstitions of the Highlands.

drooping spirits above the ordinary pitch, by whisky, the favourite liquor of the country. The following circumstance was related to us by an eye-witness.

A PERSON originally from Oban, had spent some time in the neighbourhood of Inverary, in the exercise of some mechanic art; and dying there, his corpse, at his own request, was carried by his friends towards Oban for interment. On a hill between Inverary and Loch Awe, just above Port Sonachan, they were met by the relations of the deceased from Oban, who came to convey the corpse the remainder of the way. The parting could not take place without a glass of spirits, that had been plentifully provided by the Oban party; and before they separated, above forty corpses were to be carried down the hill, in which, however, animation was only suspended, for they all recovered the next day.

IN this, and many other parts of the highlands, a glass of whisky is drank the first thing in the morning, and you are seldom allowed the privilege of a refusal, however unaccustomed to such a mode of living; for a highlander would not think he had discharged the duties of hospitality, if he let you leave his house without it,

IN the highlands, the breakfast is the principal meal. Accustomed to be out among the hills, shooting or hunting, a highland gentleman seldom thinks of dinner. On this account, the breakfast table is plentifully stored with all, or most of the

following articles:—Tea, oat cakes, and biscuits, for wheat bread is seldom to be seen; butter, cheese, eggs, hung-beef, broiled salmon, or kepper as it is called, ham, tongues, marmalade, honey, and fresh herrings where they can be had. Wherever you call, you are presented with spirits, except in the poorer cottages, where they offer milk. These cottages are in general miserable habitations. They are built of round stones, without any cement, thatched with sods, and sometimes heath: they are generally, though not always, divided by a wicker partition into two apartments, in the larger of which the family reside; it serves likewise as a sleeping room for them all. In the middle of this room is the fire made of peat, placed on the floor; and over it, by means of a hook, hangs the pot for dressing the victuals. There is frequently a hole in the roof to allow exit to the smoke, but this is not directly over the fire, on account of the rain, and very little of the smoke finds its way out of it, the greatest part, after having filled every corner of the room, coming out of the door, so that it is almost impossible for any one unaccustomed to it, to breathe in the hut. The other apartment, to which you enter by the same door, is reserved for cattle and poultry, when these last do not choose to mess and lodge with the family.

At Dalmaly we saw, for the first time, a woman who had her cloak fastened by a large silver broach, of a circular form, about three inches in diameter, such as described by Mr. Pennant: we had afterwards, in the course of our journey, an

opportunity of seeing several of them. They were made long since, of the silver found in the hills, or procured from the lead of the country.

About a quarter of a mile eastward from the inn of Dalmaly, is the well of St. Connan: the water is remarkably light and pure, but does not appear to be impregnated with any mineral. St. Connan was the tutelar saint of the country. He lived near the well, and blessed the spring. On a little eminence hard by, in a humble cot, about twenty-five years since, dwelt a poor old man, principally supported by the well of St. Connan. The whole day he sat, generally at the door of his cot, ready to give passengers a draught of his favourite spring, for which he generally received some small consideration. It is almost incredible what quantities he himself daily drank, for the space of forty-four years that he lived near the well. He never had a complaint; and arrived at the age of eighty-six, in the exercise of all his mental faculties. The evening before he died, he was seen drinking at the well as usual; but though this practice had prevented disease, it could not save him from the hand of death. He retired to his cell, and in the morning was found dead in his bed. A few shillings were found in an old rag beside him. He had exacted a promise from the minister of the parish, that no one after him should occupy the hut; and about this he discovered an anxiety not to be accounted for. The day he was buried, the hut was demolished. It would not, indeed, as Dr. M'Intire observes, have been easy to have

Kilchurn Castle.

found a new occupant, for the whole inside of his solitary habitation was lined with fragments of coffins, brought from the church-yard year after year, as repairs were needed.*

We left the Manse of Glenorchay about noon, on our way to Oban. Mr. M'Intire very politely accompanied us to Taynuilt, an inn about fourteen miles distant, where we proposed to dine. We had a most romantic ride, the whole road lying close to the banks of Loch Awe, and the fine rapid river that runs out of the north side of the lake, into Loch Etive; on our right were rugged mountains, whose bases were covered with wood, and whose lofty summits were crowned with clouds, depositing their watery loads that came in the form of cascades, many of which were very beautiful: on our left, we had the lake with its beautiful islands.

On a peninsula stand the ruins of Kilchurn Castle, which, as you wind along, appears under a variety of pleasing points of view, but the finest and most striking is at the distance of about four miles from Dalmaly. Here we had a noble expanse of water before us, a distinct view of the castle and peninsula in the middle, and in the distance, Benloi, and several high mountains, with the opening of the vale of Glenorchay.

This castle was built by the lady of Sir Colin Campbell, about the year 1440, while he was engaged in the holy wars.

* Stat. Account.

In solitary retirement she here mourned his absence, and waited his return. It was afterwards much enlarged, and became the chief residence of the Earls of Breadalbane. In the year 1745, a part of it was garrisoned by the king's forces, in order to defend this pass into the highlands, and secure the tranquillity of the country. This magnificent seat, however, is fast tumbling down, and is a melancholy monument of the mutability of human grandeur, and of the all-destructive hand of Time.

WHAT does not fade? The tower that long had stood
The crush of thunder, and the warring winds,
Shook by the slow, but sure destroyer, Time,
Now hangs in doubtful ruins o'er its base.*

ON a small island, not far from the castle, called *Fraoch Ellan*, are likewise the ruins of an ancient castle; much smaller, however, than that of Kilchurn. In the year 1267, this little island, with its fortress, and some contiguous lands, were granted by Alexander the Third, to Gilbert M'Naughtan, the chief of the clan, on condition that he should entertain the king, whenever he passed that way.

FRAOCH-ELLAN was, says Mr. Pennant, the Hesperides of this country. "The fair Mego longed for the delicious fruit of the isle, guarded by a dreadful serpent: Fraoch, who had long loved the maid, goes to gather the fruit. By the rustling of the

* Armstrong.

leaves, the serpent is awaked from its sleep. It attacked the hero, who perished in the conflict: the monster was also destroyed. Mego did not long survive the death of her lover." This is the story sung in the Erse ballads, handed down by tradition from time immemorial.*

We travelled for several miles under the high and rugged mountain Cruachan, through woods of hazel and birch, which skirt its base. The perpendicular height of this mountain, as measured by Colonel Watson, is 3390 feet above the level of the sea, and the circumference at the base exceeds twenty miles. Cruachan, says Dr. M'Intire, is the weather-gage of the people within view of its lofty summit. Before the storm, "the spirit of the mountain shrieks," and its head and sides are enveloped with clouds.

On the summit of this lofty mountain was the fatal spring, from which, according to a tradition in this part of the country, attributed to Ossian, issued the beautiful lake Awe.

"Bera, the aged, dwelt in the cave of the rock. She was the daughter of Griannan the sage. Long was the line of her fathers, and she was the last of her race. Large and fertile were her possessions; her's the beautiful vales below, and her's the cattle which roamed on the hills around. To Bera was committed the charge of that awful spring, which, by the appoint-

* This translation of it is by the learned Dr. Smith, of Campbeltown.

ment of fate, was to prove so fatal to the inheritance of her fathers, and to her father's race.

"BEFORE the sun should withdraw his beams, she was to cover the spring with a stone, on which sacred and mysterious characters were impressed. One night this was forgot by the unhappy Bera: overcome with the heat and chace of the day, she was seized with sleep before the usual hour of rest. The confined waters of the mountain burst forth into the plain below, and covered the large expanse now known by the name of the lake of Awe. The third morning, Bera awaked from her sleep. She went to remove the stone from the spring; but behold no stone was there! She looked to the inheritance of her tribe; she shrieked! The mountain shook from its base! Her spirit retired to the ghosts of her fathers, in their light airy halls."

THIS tale is repeated and sung in the original by many persons in this neighbourhood. They tell several other tales concerning the same Bera, but by no means in so elegant a manner; the preceding story was woven from the raw material in Ossian's loom of fancy, but the others are the rough manufacture of the peasantry. The residence of Bera was said to be on the highest mountains; that she could step with ease, and in a moment, from one district to another; and, when offended, that she caused a flood to come from the mountains, which destroyed the corn, and laid the grounds under water. This may probably allude to water-spouts, which in this country often burst sud-

denly on the hills, tearing down a great part of their side, and sweeping gravel and stones, and water into the plain. These wonderful effects would readily, in the dark ages, be attributed to the agency of spirits and giants.

PROCEEDING farther down the banks of the lake, we saw the beautiful isle of Inishail, on which are still visible the ruins of a monastery. Concerning this religious house, record and tradition are almost equally silent. It is said to have been a house of nuns, memorable for the sanctity of their lives and purity of their manners; at the Reformation, this religious house was suppressed, and temporalities granted to HAY, the abbot of Inchaffrey, who abjuring the former tenets of his religion, embraced the cause of the reformers. On the island is likewise a ruined chapel, which formerly belonged to the monastery, but was afterwards used as the parish church, the parish being called Inishail, from the island. In these days, on a Sunday, might be seen boats of pious people, landing in successive groups, and waiting the arrival of their pastor. But this being found inconvenient, and even dangerous in many instances, a place of worship was built nearly opposite to the island, on the side of the road between Inverary and Dalmaly. Though the parishes, both of Glenorchay and Inishail, are very extensive, yet they are conjoined, and under the pastoral care of Dr. Mac Intire.

THE great body of the lake runs directly westward by Hayfield, the seat of Mr. MACDOUGAL, very pleasantly situated; but a branch of it, on whose banks we rode, runs northward. This branch narrows very fast, but continues deep. From the road, the descent to the water is almost perpendicular, and yet there is no parapet wall, which renders it exceedingly dangerous for carriages, and even horses. After crossing a small bridge, under which a rapid torrent rolls, forming a fine cascade almost hid with wood, we saw two jutting promontories forming the termination of the lake, and the beginning of the river Awe. The opposite bank is very high, and almost perpendicular, yet its scanty herbage is cropped by sheep, whose bleatings we constantly heard, and by goats, which climb with ease these rugged steeps. In many places, mountain torrents, or probably waterspouts, have washed down immense quantities of gravel from the sides of the mountains.

THE rains here are almost incessant; the tops of the mountains being very seldom free from clouds, which pour down torrents. The showers indeed in summer do not, in general, last long, but they are continually falling, and the natives are so inured to them, that they call the weather fine, when a traveller from the south of England would scarcely venture out.*

* The great body of Cruachan is composed of a reddish porphyry, but near the bottom is found argillaceous schistus, intersected by veins of quartz, and lapis ollaris. Near Taynuilt I found some beautiful red jasper. At a small distance from the river

We now travelled along the banks of the Awe, which runs out of the lake with astonishing rapidity, roaring over rocks and loose stones. In this river are plenty of salmon, and we saw several persons employed in fishing. About half a mile below the origin of the river, on the opposite side, lay a large stone near the edge of the water; we could see plainly that this huge fragment had fallen from the rock above, at no great distance of time, for we could trace its marks on the steep side of the hill, and perceive the ruins of a cottage, which Mr. M'INTIRE informed us it had overturned in its course. I afterwards found the circumstance described in so interesting a manner in his father's Statistical Account, that I shall take the liberty of transcribing it.

"A FEW years ago, in a cottage at the bottom of the steep hill, whose summit is one range of projecting rocks, a near and crashing noise was heard, resembling a clap of thunder. The cottager from a window beheld the face of the hill covered with detached masses of rock, bounding with velocity, and flying towards his slender and ill-constructed habitation. His wife had just gone out, and he heard her cries. A child stood at his knee, and another was asleep in a bed beside him. He sprung instantaneously to the door, with a child, as he thought, in each hand.

Awe, near the bridge, the ground is almost covered with fragments of porphyry, that have fallen from the neighbouring mountains. The basis of this porphyry is a kind of trap, of a dirty red colour, with fresh-coloured crystals of feldspar, some crystals of black shorl, and a very few of greenish coloured mica. This stone seems to constitute the greatest part of Cruachan, and the neighbouring mountains.

Scarce had he crossed the threshold, when an enormous stone passed through his house, in the very place where he and his children were a moment before. He missed a child, and no longer heard the voice of his wife. He looked into the ruins of his hut: found his child alive and unhurt, in a corner, whither it had been thrust by the fragments of the bed and furniture, displaced by the rock in its course. In a little the mother came to the scene. Their joy and gratitude were complete."

About twelve miles from Dalmaly, we crossed the river Awe by a bridge, above which is a little island; the road here is extremely romantic. The near hills are covered with birch, and the distant mountains have all the alpine grandeur that can be conceived; the valley is filled with a beautiful arm of the sea, called Loch Etive, into the side of which the river Awe pours the water of the lake. This place is called Bunaw. About 1753, a company from Lancashire erected a furnace for casting pig iron here, and obtained a long lease of several farms, for rearing wood, and grazing their work-horses. A part of the wood is cut down every year, and converted into charcoal, with which they are enabled to make extremely pure iron, the charcoal deoxydating the metal, and freeing it from its impurities much better than fossil coal. The iron ore is imported from the western coast of England, and other places. This work has been found highly beneficial to the poor natives, who find constant employment, humane treatment, and good wages in its various departments. About two miles after we crossed Awe-

bridge, we came to Taynuilt, a small and miserable looking village, with an inn of no very tempting aspect; the accommodations were, however, much better than we expected, and our fare was seasoned with good nature, and a wish to please; who then would not be pleased? Upon the whole, this day's ride was one of the most romantic and beautiful we had hitherto enjoyed. In the evening we walked out a little to take a view of the surrounding country, but the rain soon drove us back.

JULY 15. Breakfast dispatched, we took leave of our good-natured friend, Mr. M'Intire, and proceeded on our way to Oban, twelve miles distant from Taynuilt. Soon after quitting the inn, we saw on our left, on the top of a little hill, a cross, which had doubtless remained there since the days of popery, having escaped the ruthless hands of the disciples of John Knox: it was probably a monumental cross, such as is frequently met with in Spain, and other Catholic countries. Riding a little farther, we entered some very beautiful woods of birch; this light and elegant tree, so common in the highlands, is certainly entitled to the epithet beautiful, though not of the drooping or weeping kind, which we afterwards met with. The road continued extremely pleasant; the inequality of the ground sometimes rising into little hills, clothed with birch, and sometimes appearing in the form of abrupt rugged rocks, presented us every moment with new, grand, and interesting scenery. Now and then we had a peep of the salt-water lake Etive, down whose southern banks we were travelling: in several places to

the right, and indeed on both sides of the road, are flat pieces of ground, with surfaces as level as a piece of water; these flat places are surrounded by hills, and we could have no doubt, from inspection, that they had formerly been lakes, which have been filled up through time. Many of them are peat-mosses, others form the finest meadows. These appearances are by no means peculiar to this part, but may be seen in almost every hilly country; and though the lakes in Scotland are almost without number, yet there is every reason to believe that they were formerly much more numerous than at present. In the course of our tour, we saw several instances of lakes now filling up.

Loch Etie, or Etive, is a navigable inlet of the sea, near twenty miles long, but of very unequal breadth; its banks are pleasant, being indented into creeks and bays, affording safe anchorage in any wind whatever: they are delightfully variegated with hills and valleys, meadows and corn-fields, wood and water. There are several salmon fisheries on its banks, and in some seasons it is frequented by herrings. The extremity of the lake bends its course in a north-easterly direction, terminating in Glen Etie, a valley famous for being the residence of Usnath, the father of Nathos, Althos, and Ardan; the first of whom ran away with Darthula, wife of Cairbar, king of Ulster, in Ireland, which is the subject of one of Ossian's beautiful poems. The following is the outline of the story:

USNATH, laird of Eta, had three sons, Nathos, Althos, and Ardan, by Slissama, the daughter of Semo, and sister of the celebrated Cuchullin. The three brothers, when very young, went over to Ireland, by desire of their father, to learn the use of arms under their uncle Cuchullin, who made a great figure in that island. They were just landed in Ulster, when the news of Cuchullin's death arrived. Nathos, though very young, took the command of Cuchullin's army, made head against Cairbar the usurper, and defeated him in several battles. Cairbar at last having found means to murder Cormac, the lawful king, the army of Nathos changed sides, and their commander was obliged to return into Ulster, in order to pass over into Scotland.

DARTHULA, the daughter of Colla, who was betrothed to Cairbar, resided at that time in Selama, a castle in Ulster; she saw, loved, and fled with Nathos, intending to accompany him to his native country; but a storm rising at sea, they were unfortunately driven back on that part of the coast of Ulster, where Cairbar was encamped with his army, waiting for Fingal, the king of Morven, who meditated an expedition into Ireland, to re-establish the Scottish race of kings on the throne of Ulster. The three brothers, after having defended themselves for some time with great bravery, were overpowered and slain; Darthula standing near the body of her beloved Nathos, was reproached by Cairbar; she killed herself with an arrow, and fell upon the body of her lover. This last scene is thus beautifully decribed by the poet.

"DARTHULA stood in silent grief, beheld their fall; no tear was in her eye; but her look was wildly sad. Pale was her cheek; her trembling lips broke short a half-form'd word. Her dark hair flew on the wind. But gloomy Cairbar came. ——'Where is thy lover now, the car-borne chief of Eta? Hast thou beheld the halls of Usnath, or the dark-brown hills of Fingal? My battle had roared on Morven, had not the winds brought back Darthula. Fingal himself would have been low, and sorrow dwelling in Selma.'——Her shield fell from Darthula's arm, her breast of snow appeared. It appeared, but it was stained with blood, for an arrow was fixed in her side. She fell on the fallen Nathos, like a wreath of snow. Her dark hair spreads on his face, and their blood is mixing round."

IN Loch Etive is a small island, with the ruins of a house; it even now goes by the name of *Elain Usnich*, or the island of Usnath. There is also in Glen Etie, a rock rising in the form of a cone, on the end of a high hill, which to this day retains the name of *Grianan Dearthuil*, signifying the basking place of Darthula, a name probably given in honour of this celebrated woman.

EMERGING from the birch woods, we continued our route, winding along the shore, over a road as good as need be: the ground produces tolerable crops of barley and oats for this part of the country; the return of oats being about five-fold. Shell

sand is used as manure; it is brought from a considerable distance in boats, and spread upon the surface with advantage. Wherever the ground, near the banks of the loch, is broken up by digging for gravel, or by any other circumstance; under the soil is found a bed of granite, and porphyric pebbles and sea-shells, exactly the same as on the shores of the lake, which shows that these parts have been formerly covered by the sea, or have formed the shore of the lake, that now appears to be gradually embanking itself and retiring, leaving a gentle slope of land towards it. In process of time, it is not improbable that this arm of the sea will leave a tract of fine land, unless where it is kept open by the river: that period must, however, be very remote. The pebbles on the shore consist almost entirely of the kind of porphyry already described, and a red granite. The *Cucubalus behen, Glaux maritima,* and *Statice armeria,* grow close to the shore in considerable quantities.

About seven miles from Taynuilt, Loch Etive contracts to a narrow channel, not much more than a musket shot over: this place is called *Connel,* which signifies in the Celtic tongue rage or fury, and is very descriptive of the place. A ridge of rugged and uneven rocks here run across two thirds of the channel, and occasion, at certain periods of the ebbing or flowing tide, such a rapid current, that no vessel with the freshest breeze can stem it. In the beginning of the flood, the tide runs up with great rapidity, and Loch Etive being at once swelled with the spring-tide from the ocean, and the water of Loch Awe, as

soon as the former begins to ebb, discharges itself with a violence and noise, unequalled by the loudest cataract, and which may be heard at the distance of many miles. This celebrated fall of salt water seems to be alluded to by Ossian:

"These are not thy mountains, O Nathos!
Nor is that the roar of thy climbing waves."*

THE ferry of Connel, though in appearance very formidable, is safe, owing to the skill of the boatmen. It may be crossed when some greater and seemingly smoother ones cannot. No accident has happened at it in the remembrance of any one living.

ABOUT two miles beyond Connel, on a promontory jutting into the lake, and almost insulated, is a bold rock, on which stand the remains of the castle of Dunstaffnage.

THIS castle is said to have been founded by EWIN, a Pictish monarch, cotemporary with Julius Cæsar, who called it after himself *Evonium*.† Whether this account be true or not, it is certainly a place of great antiquity, and one of the first seats of the Pictish and Scottish princes. In this castle was long preserved the famous stone chair, or seat, the palladium of North Britain, said to have been brought out of Spain, where it was first used as a seat of justice by Gathelus, who was coëval with Moses. It

* Darthula, a poem. † Pennant's Tour, Part I. p. 410.

Dunstaffnage Castle.

continued here, and was used as the coronation chair, till the time of Kenneth the Second, who removed it to Scone, from whence, as will be afterwards more particularly noticed, it was taken to Westminster Abbey, where it now I believe remains.

Some of the ancient regalia were preserved till the present century, when the keeper's servants, during his infirm years, embezzled them for the sake of the silver ornaments. There remains, however, a battle-axe of beautiful workmanship, ornamented with silver.

The castle is a square building, in a very ruinous state; at three of the corners are round towers; the entrance is at present towards the sea by a ruinous stair-case, and the whole has a most dreary and desolate appearance. Of this building, nothing remains but the outer walls, within which a house has been erected for the residence of the proprietor. The Duke of Argyle is hereditary keeper of the castle, but it is the property of a Mr. Campbell. It is situated on a rock, as was before observed, at the mouth of Loch Etive, whose waters expand within, to a beautiful bay, where ships may safely ride at anchor in all weathers.

In 1307, Dunstaffnage Castle was possessed by Alexander Macdougal, Lord of Argyle, but was reduced that year by

Robert Bruce. About the year 1455, it seems to have been the residence of the Lords of the Isles; for hither it was that James, the last Earl of Douglas, after his defeat in Annandale, fled to Donald, the *Regulus* of the time, and prevailed on him to take arms, and carry on a plundering war against his monarch, James the Second.*

At a little distance from the castle, is a small rooffless chapel, of elegant workmanship, struggling hard against all-powerful time, to accompany this venerable seat of kings in ages yet to come. In this chapel, some of the kings of Scotland are said to have been buried. On the south-side of it is a rock, one point of which stretches towards the chapel. If a person be placed on one side of the point, and speaks aloud, the sound of his voice is heard on the other side, so distinctly reverberated from the chapel, as to make him imagine it comes from a person within the ruin. It is reported, that a few years since, a man contracted an illness, which terminated in death, on hearing a sermon on mortality read to him by an alarming voice, in the dusk of the evening, by a person who had concealed himself on the opposite side of the point. He believed that the address came from one of the dead in the chapel, warning him to prepare for death.

There is a custom still in use at Dunstaffnage, which expresses, in no unpleasing manner, at once the hospitality of the

* Pennant's Tour.

country, and the attachment of the people to their chief. When a company of unexpected strangers arrive, which is by no means uncommon in the highlands, a pole is immediately erected on the battlements of the castle, with a table-cloth affixed to it for a flag. This serves as a signal to the tenants of certain possessions, to bring fresh salmon, or any other fish that may be in season. Other tenants embrace that opportunity of showing their attachment, or paying their court to the laird, by presenting any thing that is rare, or which they think may be acceptable.*

We were informed, that this ancient seat of kings, and the adjoining lands, were offered to sale: indeed, we were surprized to find many of the highland estates in the same situation, though till within these last fifty years, such a circumstance was seldom heard of; but then luxury had not reached these distant parts. Proprietors lived at home, and subsisted chiefly on the produce of their own lands, which enabled them to exercise a princely hospitality. They were beloved and revered by their tenants; but times are now changed: the highland lairds resort frequently to the metropolis, where their incomes will by no means support them in the style in which they think they have a right to appear. At present a purchaser might find at least 150,000*l.* worth of highland property in the market.† This, however,

* Newte's Tour.

† Smith's Agricultural Survey of Argyleshire.

though it is a private loss, may perhaps be considered as a public benefit. A spirit of industry and adventure is certainly excited, by the prospect of one day being able to obtain a spot of one's native land, which a person may call his own. The greatest evil that attends a change of property in these parts, is, that estates are often bought by strangers, who have no attachment to the country, and who do not therefore reside on them, but let them to tacksmen, who offer the greatest rent.

About three miles beyond Dunstaffnage, is Oban; the horse road from Dunstaffnage is bad and intricate, but before we entered the village, we had two or three fine views of the sea, confined by bold promontories.

Oban is a small village on the sea-coast, hid from the Western Ocean by the island of Kerrera. Here is a fine bay, of a semicircular form, from twelve to twenty fathoms deep, and large enough to contain five hundred sail of merchantmen. This bay has two entries, one from the south, and the other from the north: it is defended from the westerly winds, and the fury of the Atlantic, by Mull and other islands in front of it. The village has risen rapidly from a very small beginning. The first house of any consequence was built by a trading company of Renfrew, who used it as a store-room, Oban even then being considered as one of the most convenient situations in this coun-

try for trade. The next building was a custom-house, which was erected about thirty years ago. After the erection of this last building, when some little trade began to be carried on, from the convenient situation of the bay, and its vicinity to a populous country; the attention of the Duke of Argyle, Mr. Campbell of Dunstaffnage, and other persons interested in the prosperity of the village, was attracted, and they granted building leases to a considerable extent, since which time the buildings have annually increased.

OBAN is particularly indebted to two brothers of the name of STEVENSON. They settled there in 1778, and by their genius and industry, displayed in various branches of traffic, they have acquired handsome fortunes, while, at the same time, they have promoted the good of the country in no common degree. Indeed, Oban may look upon them as its founders; they commenced, and still carry on the business of ship-building. They have a considerable coasting trade, and deal in meal, kelp, cattle, hides, &c. besides supplying the islands, and a good part of the country, with various kinds of merchandize. Their attention to strangers is very pleasing, and I have myself to thank them for several marks of civility.

OBAN is admirably situated for a sea-port, and if proper attention were paid to it, might in time become a place of great consequence. It is particularly well calculated for a fishing station. But these, as Mr. Knox observes, are inferior considerations,

when compared with the national advantages that might be derived from this excellent harbour and road.

It is formed by nature, and by a combination of favourable circumstances, for being a principal harbour, a place of trade, and a central mart for the south highlands, and the different isles in its vicinity. It is defended from westerly and southerly winds by the isle of Kerrera, which, at a small distance, stretches directly across the bay. It lies in the tract of fishing vessels and coasters, passing to and from the north highlands; and being situated near the entrance of the great Loch Linnhe, has a communication with an extensive range of country, and should ever the navigation along the chain of lakes, from Inverness to the Atlantic, be rendered practicable, its importance will be very much increased.

Here, also, as the above-mentioned gentleman remarks, a royal dock and arsenal might be erected. It is well known, that the best designs of government for annoying its enemies, or defending our colonies, or trade, are sometimes frustrated by means of contrary winds, which prevent our fleets and transports from getting out of the harbours, and particularly from getting round to the land's end. We also know, that the enemy gain information through the medium of newspapers, or otherwise, of almost every equipment and motion of our ships and troops, by which they are enabled to counteract our designs with similar squadrons, or by secret dispatches to commanding

officers abroad. There is no doubt that the loss and delays to the nation arising from these circumstances are very considerable, but might in some degree be remedied by having a royal dock-yard and arsenal on the west coast of Scotland, where small squadrons and transports with troops could be secretly fitted out, and from whence they could sail at all times of the year, and with every wind that blows.

By these means a fleet with troops might reach the West Indies or America, before an enemy could have the smallest intelligence of the design, which would undoubtedly give our fleets and armies a decided advantage.

Oban is unquestionably the best place for such a dock. From its situation, it has a speedy communication with Glasgow, by the Clyde, from whence stores, &c. might be conveyed, especially were the Crinan Canal completed. Loch Linnhe is navigable to Fort William, and from thence is a good military road to Fort Augustus, as well as to Fort George, where a considerable body of troops always is or might be kept, as these forts are capable of lodging, on an emergency, 6000 men. These could be conveyed from Fort William to Oban by water; or, should the wind be unfavourable, they might easily march by land, the roads being sufficiently good.*

* Knox's Tour through the highlands of Scotland.

We took a late dinner at Oban, and the evening being remarkably fine, and the wind fair, although it was later than could have been wished, we determined to go over to Mull, for fear of being detained at Oban by bad weather. The distance from the village to the ferry is near two miles, the ferry lying to the southward of it. We passed in our way a lake of considerable extent, almost filled up with reeds, whose sloping banks are well cultivated: it might be drained at a trifling expense, and a quantity of good land gained, a circumstance of no small importance to Oban. The rivulet which runs from it into the sea, divides the Duke of Argyle's property from the lands of Dunstaffnage.

Arrived at the ferry, we found that the boat which was to take us to the island of Kerrera, was on the other side of the sound in that island; we had therefore to hail it, and while it was coming over, our attention was directed northwards to a very picturesque view. Fine rugged promontories confine the flat expanse of water in all manner of forms. On one of these stands the castle of Dunolly; this, with the islands of Lismore and Kerrera, bound the near view, while the distance is formed by the lofty mountains of Morven.

We were ferried over to the island of Kerrera in a few minutes, the distance being scarcely a mile; we crossed the island by a hilly and very indifferent road, to the Mull ferry on the other side. Kerrera is about four miles in length, and two in

Perry near Olney.

Drawn by W. A. Wales.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

breadth. It is the property of Mr. MACDOUGAL, of Dunolly, excepting one farm belonging to the Earl of Breadalbane. A son of Mr. Macdougal's resides on the island, in the only good house, which is nearly opposite Oban, and is distinctly seen in the view from the ferry. The island, which is very hilly, contains seven hamlets, or groups of miserable huts, and is divided into as many farms, each of which supports about thirty head of cattle. We saw several patches of oats and barley looking tolerably well. Potatoes also had a promising appearance, and flax is cultivated here, as in most parts of the highlands. There are no inclosures, so that herds are continually employed to keep the cattle from the corn, and from encroaching on the different farms, a mode very common in most parts of Scotland, and very prejudicial to agricultural improvements.

FROM Kerrera to Mull is eight or ten miles, and in about an hour and a half, ourselves and horses were fairly landed there; the evening was delightfully fine, the water still, and a pleasing softness thrown by twilight over the distant hills, rendered the scenery really sublime.

WHEN we landed in Mull, we were directed to Achnacraig, an inn about half a mile from the shore; we found the accommodations for ourselves tolerable, but those for our horses very bad indeed. The stable was a little low hut, with a floor of mud, without any divisions or stalls; we could procure no oats for their food, nor straw for their bedding, but after a consider-

able dispute between Mr. Watts and the woman who acted as hostler, whether it was proper to give "the food of christians to horses," we got them each a mess of oatmeal and water. Indeed, in these highlands horses seldom taste oats; the small ponies, which are by much the more proper for the country, being a very hardy race, require little or no attention.

JULY 16. Soon after we had breakfasted, we went to pay a visit to the Rev. ALEXANDER FRASER, minister of the parish of Torosay, to whom I had a letter of introduction. The distance was only two miles, but as the road was intricate, we were advised to take a guide. Wishing to rest our horses, we left them at the inn, and we had reason to think ourselves fortunate in so doing, for the road, if it might be called one, was so very bad and rugged, that it would scarcely have been possible for horses, unaccustomed to it, to make their way. The steep rocky mountains are chiefly covered with heath, though there are some small patches of pasture, and a little of the poorest corn I ever saw, seldom yielding in the best years more than three seeds for one. Very few of the inhabitants can speak any English, and we found it impossible to gain information from our guide, either concerning surrounding objects, or any other circumstance. We passed a man who was making ropes of heath; he desisted from his work when we came up, and we could not, by any signs or endeavours, make him understand that we wished him to resume it, in order that we might see the manner of making them. Necessity is justly called the

mother of invention; for who that had been accustomed only to see the usual manufacture of ropes, could have supposed that the rough twigs of heath would form a rope as strong, as durable, and nearly as pliant, as hemp.

As we passed through a village, consisting of twenty or thirty miserable looking huts, the name of which is Killean, a man followed us, and asked us in broken English, if we had got any tobacco, of which they are extravagantly fond. Unfortunately, we were not able to gratify his palate; but, as the best substitute, I gave him a little snuff out of a quantity which I had brought with me, hearing that the highlanders were very fond of it.

Mr. FRASER resides at a very short distance from this village; he received us very politely, and made an apolgy for his habitation, which, it must be confessed, is a dwelling by no means suitable to the situation of a minister, or a person of liberal education, being very little, if at all, better than the common huts of the country. He told us that he had entered a plea against the heritors for a glebe and manse, but that he had not been able to obtain either. Surely the matter has never come properly to the ear of the noble Duke, who is the principal proprietor, otherwise, from the acknowledged attention and goodness of his Grace, he would never allow a minister and his family to be so wretchedly accommodated.

We found Mrs. Fraser very much indisposed; Mrs. Fraser's brother, who had been on a visit with them, was just recovering from a *typhus* fever; one of his children had died a short time before; and his eldest son, a very quick and lively boy, was just recovering from a severe indisposition. They attributed their complaints, and I think with great reason, to the badness and dampness of their accommodation. There is at present no medical man in the island, so that those who want assistance, are obliged to go to Inverary, there being no surgeon of eminence nearer; an immense distance from some parts of the island, in which, dangerous sounds and ferries are to be crossed, and a great way travelled over by land. Even after this they can only give an imperfect representation of the case, for no common person can offer a sufficient inducement to a medical man to undertake so long and dangerous a journey to visit a patient. It might perhaps be imagined, that their simple lives would secure them in a great measure from diseases; and this undoubtedly would be the case, were their accommodations more comfortable; but their cottages are wretched and miserable in the extreme. Indeed, few gentlemen would suffer their hounds to be lodged as these poor people are. That they are not healthy I am certain, for I had scarce been an hour at Mr. Fraser's, before I had above a dozen patients from the small village of Killean, who had in some way heard I was a physician, and for whom I prescribed such simple remedies as I thought they were likely to procure. Mrs. Fraser keeps a few medicines, and, with the help of Buchan, administers to their distresses.

A LITTLE below Mr. Fraser's house, at the bottom of the hill, is a beautiful salt-water lake: its sloping banks are fringed with wood, the growth of which is, however, very stinted. The name of this arm of the sea is *Loch Buie*.*

THIS, as well as some other lakes in Mull, are frequented by herring, which sometimes almost fill the whole loch, but are of little use to the inhabitants on account of the difficulty of procuring salt. Great numbers were caught the last year, and would have been sold to advantage, but the greater part were suffered to rot for want of this article. The duty on salt is so high, that herring cannot be cured unless it be taken off. This having been represented to Government, the salt is now sold free of duty, for the purpose of curing fish only; but this privilege requires so many forms, that it is impossible to comply with them, and fish to advantage.

IN order to procure salt for the purpose of curing fish, those who want it are obliged to go for it to Oban, and at the custom-house make oath, that the salt which they purchase is for the curing of herring only; they must at the same time give a bond, which is not discharged till they take the herring, and what salt may remain above the quantity allowed for a certain number, to Oban, a distance of twenty miles. Indeed, from many parts of the island, they are obliged to go double that distance

* Loch Buie signifies the yellow lake; but the reason of the epithet yellow, is not very evident.

to a custom-house, for a few baskets of salt, and return to the same custom-house with the little fish they have cured, or perhaps with the salt without any fish at all. Besides, the people will never go to a distant custom-house for salt, till the herring appear in the lochs, from the well-grounded fear that the fishing may fail; and that having no proper place in which to keep the salt, it may in different ways be embezzled, and they incur all the penalties of the salt laws. Even when the herring do appear, the weather may be bad, the distance of the custom-house great, the salt damaged in their open boats, and the herring in a great measure disappear; or at least much valuable time be lost before they return home to the fishing.

Besides this loch, there are some in this island much larger, which are resorted to by the herring; such as Loch Screiden, and Loch Nakell or Loch Nagaul, the latter of which runs deep into the island, almost bisecting it. These lochs, which are often filled with herring, and would be a source of wealth to the inhabitants, and afford employment to many who are obliged to seek it at a distance, are rendered of no use by the salt laws. The want of salt is likewise severely felt by these poor people, when they lay up their winter stock of provisions; and it is scarcely to be wondered at that they should yield to the temptation of smuggling, to which they are in a manner forced by imperious necessity. They pay as high for the smuggled salt, as they do for that which they procure from Oban, for smugglers always take advantage of their situation, and endeavour by high prices to

indemnify themselves for the risk they run; but the people thus get the salt without the tedious formalities, the loss of time, or the risk which attends procuring it in the regular way.

I THINK it is highly probable that the Scottish fisheries can never be carried to any very great extent, till not only these grievances be removed, but till the importation of rock-salt from Cheshire be allowed. In Scotland, salt can neither be manufactured sufficiently cheap, nor sufficiently pure. To understand this, it is only necessary to observe, that the sea-water on the coast of Scotland, and particularly on the west coast, does not in general contain three parts in a hundred of salt; so that in the manufacture of this article, in order to procure three tons of it, ninety-seven tons of water must be evaporated, which consumes much time, and is likewise very expensive, where fuel is so difficult to be procured as it is in most parts of the highlands of Scotland.

BESIDES, the salt extracted from sea-water is not pure muriat of soda, or the kind of salt proper for curing fish, and salt provisions in general, but contains a considerable quantity of muriat of magnesia and muriat of lime, as well as some sulphat of magnesia. These are called diliquescent salts, because they attract moisture from the air. In whatever state of dryness they may be procured by evaporation, when exposed for a short time to the atmosphere, they become soft, moist, and at last perfectly fluid; and it is this circumstance which renders them unfit for the

curing of provisions, because when they are in a state of fluidity, they not only wash off the common salt, but the water which they bring in contact with the provisions becomes decomposed, and rapidly promotes putrefaction. It is true that the salt might, in a great measure, be freed from these impurities, by repeated solution and crystalization, and particularly by precipitating the lime and magnesia by the mineral alkali *(soda)*, but these methods would be attended with vastly too much expense, to answer the purposes for which salt is wanted.

But besides the salt which exists in sea-water, adulterated by the above-mentioned substances, there are large quantities in the bowels of the earth, in a rock or fossil state, extremely pure and fit for any purpose for which common salt is wanted.

Among the salt mines of chief note, are those of Poland, which are very extensive; from these the Dutch have chiefly procured the salt used in curing their fish, which used to give them the command of the markets. But Nature has favoured us with immense quantities of rock-salt in some parts of England, particularly at Nantwich, Northwich, and Middlewich, in Cheshire.* If it were allowed to import this salt to Scotland in

* The Cheshire salt-mines were discovered about the end of the last century, since which time the salt has continued to be dug up, and sent in large masses to the ports of Liverpool and Bristol, where it is dissolved in sea-water, and made into common salt by boiling; because, being tinged with a reddish kind of clay, without this

the rock or fossil state, then by boiling it with sea-water, as is done at Liverpool, Bristol, and some other places, a pure and fine grained salt would be procured at a trifling expense, for

operation it would not be sufficiently pure for common purposes, as is the case with some foreign rock-salt, which requires no other preparation than a gross pulverization. The descent into these mines is by means of a bucket; they are 150 feet below the surface of the earth, and the mine looks like a cathedral, supported by rows of pillars, with a roof which resembles crystal, composed of the rock-salt, transparent, and glittering from the numerous candles of the workmen, labouring with their pickaxes in digging it away.

But the most stupendous mines of rock-salt that have ever been discovered, are at Wiliska, a small town about five miles from Cracow in Poland. This town is entirely undermined, and cavities extend to a considerable distance round it. The stranger is surprized on his descent to the bottom, to find a kind of subterraneous commonwealth, consisting of a great many families, who have their peculiar laws and policy. Here are likewise public roads and carriages, horses being employed to draw the salt to the mouths of the mine, from which it is taken up by engines; these horses, when once they are down, never more see the light of the sun; and even many of the people seem buried alive in this strange abyss; some being born there, and never stirring out, though others have opportunities of breathing the fresh air of the fields, and enjoying the sun's light.

The subterraneous passages or galleries are very spacious, and in many of them chapels are hewn out of the rock-salt; in these are set up crucifixes and images of saints, before which lights are kept constantly burning. The places where the salt is hewn out, and the empty cavities from which it has been formerly taken, are called chambers; in some of them, where the water has stagnated, the bottoms and sides are covered with very thick incrustations, consisting of thousands of crystals of salt one upon another, each crystal is of a beautiful cubic figure, and some of them weigh upwards of a pound. When the candles happen to be brought into these cavities, the numerous rays of light reflected by these crystals, emit a surprizing lustre.

In some parts of the mine, huge columns of salt are left standing to support the rock. The number of miners employed is between four and five hundred; but the whole amount of the men who are about the work, is near seven hundred.

In this subterraneous town is a statue, which is considered by the immured inhabitants as the actual transformation of Lot's wife into a pillar of salt; and as this statue appears either dry or moist, the state of the weather above ground is inferred. The windings of these mines are so numerous and intricate, that workmen have fre-

very nearly the same quantity of fuel would evaporate the water from a saturated solution of salt, as when it only contains three parts in the hundred; and therefore, instead of obtaining only three tons of salt by evaporating ninety-seven of water, they would obtain eighteen, and of a quality which would enable them to cure fish equally well as any other nation. At present, in order to obtain proper salt, they are obliged to import bay salt from Portugal, for which not less than 30,000*l.* is annually paid.* This sum might be saved, and the smuggling trade which is at present carried on to the west of Scotland by the Irish, who have rock salt duty free, would be cut up by the roots.

THERE are now several mills in the island, where the oats are ground into meal, a part being taken by the miller for his

quently lost their way, their lights having burnt out, and they perished before they could be found. Dr. Darwin gives the following beautiful description of these mines:

Thus cavern'd round in Cracow's mighty mines,
With crystal walls a gorgeous city shines;
Scoop'd in the briny rock long streets extend
Their hoary course, and glittering domes ascend.
Form'd in pellucid salt, with chisel nice,
The pale lamp glimmering through the sculptur'd ice,
With wild reverted eyes fair *Lotta* stands,
And spreads to heaven, in vain, her glassy hands;
Cold streams condense upon her pearly breast,
And the big tear rolls lucid down her vest.
Far gleaming o'er the town transparent fanes
Rear their white towers, and wave their golden vanes;
Long lines of lustres pour their trembling rays,
And the bright vault returns the mingled blaze.

Bot. Garden, Part I. p. 70.

* Newte's Tour.

trouble; many of them, however, still use the Quern in cases of necessity, i. e. when they are in immediate want of meal; and some do it to save the mulcture, which they can ill spare. As we had never seen one of these rude mills, Mr. Fraser conducted us to a hut in the village of Killean, where he knew they possessed one; when we came to the place, the Quern had been lent to a neighbour; that neighbour had lent it to another; that to a third; at last, however, we procured a sight of it, and were shown the manner of using it. The Quern consists of two circular pieces of stone, generally of grit or granite, about twenty inches in diameter. In the lower stone is a wooden peg, rounded at the top; on this the upper stone is nicely balanced, so as just to touch the lower one, by means of a piece of wood fixed in a large hole in this upper piece, but which does not fill the hole, room for feeding the mill being left on each side: it is so nicely balanced, that though there is some friction from the contact of the two stones, yet a very small momentum will make it revolve several times, when it has no corn in it. The corn being dried, two women sit down on the ground, having the Quern between them; the one feeds it, while the other turns it round, relieving each other occasionally, and singing some Celtic songs all the time. The following sketch will convey some idea of it.

This simple mill seems to have been used by many rude nations. Some of them have been found in Yorkshire, and in the course of the southern Roman wall, between Solway Firth, and the eastern sea, several have been dug up. It would seem that the prophecy of Christ concerning the fate of two women grinding at a mill, refers to the Quern, which might be the mill used at that time.

In the early states of society, machines are very rude; by degrees invention improves them, and thus what was serious and severe labour, becomes at last mere children's play. This needs no other illustration than the spinning of flax and cotton, which in the present improved state of machinery is done by children, and in such a manner that a child will now do the work of twenty grown persons formerly. By means of a corn mill, water or wind will do the work of a hundred Querns.

As it is not easy to procure shoes in this island, and when procured they are very expensive, the country people make themselves brogues, a rude kind of shoes, made of skins which they tan with the bark of a diminutive willow that grows in great quantity in the islands. They sew them with thongs of leather, which stand the wetness of the country much better than hempen thread. Indeed, many of the people make the whole of their cloathing: they cultivate flax,* which they

* In most parts of the highlands, flax grows exceedingly well, and was the culture of it properly managed, few things would contribute more to the advantage of this country, than raising considerable quantities of it. If the culture of this plant was

macerate and heckle themselves as well as they can; they then spin it, and as there is generally a weaver or two in every village, they are thus provided with a coarse kind of linen at a trifling expense, if we do not reckon their labour, which they cannot employ to better advantage. Some of them have wheels, but we saw several women spinning, as we walked along, with the distaff and spindle, which in most countries is as little known as the Quern, though it was once as common.

THE sheep supply them with wool for their upper garments; this when spun and woven, is fulled, or walked, as they term it, in a particular manner by the women. As soon as the good woman of a house receives a piece of cloth from a weaver, she gives notice to her female neighbours, who repair to her, to the number of twelve or fifteen, and assist her in fulling it. For this purpose thye sit round a table, and rub the cloth hard

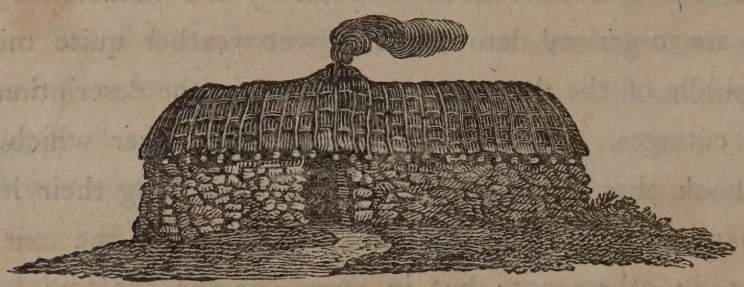
extended as far as the other operations of the farmer would allow; or if the ground when tilled was let to the poor, or to persons who, as in Holland, would make it their sole business to attend to it; it would prove an immense benefit to the country, and furnish employment to the female part of the poor, in every stage of the manufacture. When the crop is tolerably good, the produce of a single acre may be estimated at 15*l.* standing in the field—when dressed at 20*l.*—when spun into yarn, at more than 60*l.*—and when wrought into cloth and bleached, at more than 100*l.* In this way 1000 acres would yield materials for a yearly produce of 100,000*l.* See Smith's Agricultural Survey of Argyleshire, where the reader will find some good directions for the culture and management of flax. Were this system adopted, it would employ a great number of hands, which, for want of opportunities to exercise their industry, annually emigrate from the highlands to the low country, to England, and to different parts of the world; besides an immense sum would be saved to the nation, which is annually sent out to Ireland, to Holland, and to France, for the purchase of linens, lawns, cambrics, &c.

against a board, squeezing and folding it with their hands as the hatters do, till it has nearly acquired the requisite closeness and softness; they finish the operation by putting the board and cloth upon the ground, sitting round it, and working it with their feet, one against another. It is this part of the operation which is properly called walking, and it is on this account that fulling mills, in which water and machinery are made to do the work of these women, are in Scotland and the north of England, frequently called walk-mills. While they are engaged in this operation, they sing some Celtic songs in praise of Fingal or other heroes, often arriving at a high degree of enthusiasm.

In mentioning these songs, it may not be improper to observe, that both on the main land, and in the several glens of this island, there are persons who can repeat several entire poems of Ossian: of this I have been assured by the ministers and other gentlemen of veracity. These traditional tales, similar ones to which may be found among almost all rude nations, have been handed down from generation to generation, but are now wearing out very fast; for this, various reasons might be assigned; among others, the remoteness of the time, which renders the circumstances less and less interesting in every succeeding age; and several of the inhabitants having been taught to read, can obtain entertainment from books, and afford it to others; so that had not the industry of Mr. Macpherson and Dr. Smith preserved these relics, we should soon in all probability have entirely lost them.

THE cottages in Mull, which are generally disposed in little hamlets without the least regularity, and which have been called showers or sprinklings of huts, are extremely poor indeed, being little, if at all, better than the cabins of the South Sea islanders, or the wigwams of the American Indians. I have before described a highland hut, but those in the islands are much worse than any we had seen on the main land. They usually consist, like the latter, of two wretched apartments; one of which serves the family, like the cobbler's shop, "for parlour, kitchen, and hall." They are generally built of round stones or pebbles, without any cement, and therefore not well calculated to exclude the inclemencies of the weather; numbers in the island are however built of earth, which I should think the warmer of the two. The floor consists of the native ground, from which the grass has been trodden by the inhabitants: these floors are in general damp, and in wet weather quite miry. In the middle of the floor, as was observed in the description of the other cottages, they make a fire of peats, over which, by an iron hook that comes from the roof, they hang their iron pot. In many cottages there is a hole in the roof for the exit of the smoke, in others not; but in every one the apartment is filled with smoke, which finds its way out at the door: this opening, which is only about five feet high, is generally closed by a door of boards, but in many parts of Mull, particularly near Aros, they use a wicker door, or osier hurdle. In the side of the house is a small opening, about a foot square, which serves as a window; this is sometimes closed by a thick pane of glass, sometimes by a wooden shutter, which is left open in the day. Round

the sides of the room are ranged the little cribs for the beds, which are generally composed of heath, with the roots placed downward and tops upward. Above these beds are generally laid some poles, and upon these some turf, which forms a kind of shelf, where they can stow their lumber, and which likewise prevents the rain that gets through the roof, from falling upon the beds. The cottages are generally thatched with fern or heath, and sometimes with straw; the thatch is kept on by ropes of heath stretched by stones tied to the ends, which hang down the side of the cottage. The representation of one here given, though better than they generally are, may serve to convey some idea of these habitations. It is the sketch of a blacksmith's house. The roofs are often covered with turf instead of thatch.



The whole inside of these huts, and particularly the roof, is lined with soot, and drops of a viscid reddish fluid, (pyrolignous acid, I believe) hang from every piece of wood supporting the roof. This is not the description of a single cottage more miserable than the rest, but applies pretty exactly to most of them, for we had the curiosity to enter and examine numbers of them.

It is not surprizing that their cottages should be unhealthy, and particularly fatal to children, who require an air of great purity. I was informed by some of the ministers, that not more than one-third of the children born arrive at the age of twelve years, whereas in country situations in the north of England, it is not usual for one in twenty to die before that age. Little attention is here paid to the nursing of children, and the pernicious custom of giving them spirits when very young, no doubt hastens their destruction.

A little below Mr. Fraser's house, towards the loch, is the old parish church, in ruins, and which must have been so for centuries, several ash trees * having twisted their roots and branches round many parts of the wall; the remainder is nearly covered with ivy.

* A sacrilegious carpenter being in want of some wood, a few years ago, cut down some of these ash trees, part of which he carried home; but being persuaded by his neighbours that nothing would ever prosper with him, he brought back the wood and laid it beside the wall, where it still remains untouched, notwithstanding the great scarcity of timber in the island.

THIS church is said to have been planted here by St. COLUMBA, during his residence at Icolmkill, and a curious tradition is told concerning it. When one of the incumbents died, two of the numerous priests of Icolmkill made application to Columba for the benefice at the same time. As he did not wish to offend either party, he told them that the first who obtained possession should have it. It was evening when they made the application, neither of them could, therefore, venture to begin his journey till the next morning: it may be supposed, however, that their eye-lids never closed. One of them set off very early for Torosay, but never arrived there; he was found by the other lying lifeless by the side of a well on a hill above the loch: the well is known to this day by a Gaelic name, which signifies "the well where the priest lay." It was supposed, that when heated with walking, he had drank too freely of the water of this well, and had fallen a victim to his imprudence. Some persons were, however, ill-natured enough to hint, that the other priest overtook him, and, being a stronger man, made sure of his benefice.

WITHIN the ruins of this church is the burial place of the parish of Torosay; they have not given up feasting at funerals, though dancing is not common. After the funeral they repair to the side of a hill, and under a rock near the church, banish sorrow with whiskey. A curious account of a banquet of this kind was given me by a person who was present at the scene.

IT was a custom, very lately abolished, for the highland lairds to be attended by their pipers wherever they went. A laird in

Morven had taken his piper with him to the funeral of a deceased friend: when the corpse was committed to its native dust, a banquet was prepared in the church, and after the glass had circulated pretty freely, the laird ordered his piper to strike up, who, being as ready as his master, strutted up and down the church, making it resound with his melodious strains: at last he placed himself upon a tombstone, and played several airs: this so provoked a descendant of the person who was interred under the piper, who thought it an insult to the manes of his ancestor, that he went behind the musician, drew his dirk, thrust it into the wind-bag, and effectually stopped his pipe.

VARIOUS superstitions are still prevalent here; the belief in witchcraft is common, but persons who profess the gift of second sight are not much attended to. One of the superstitious notions here is, that if, in carrying a corpse to the grave, any one slips and falls down, he will be the next to be carried in this manner. A person, two or three years ago, being thus engaged, and going down a steep hill, to the ruinous burial place above described, fell down. Though slightly hurt, he immediately took to his bed, and the circumstance preyed so upon his spirits, that he was very near confirming his neighbours in their superstition: he, however, recovered, is still living, and has assisted in carrying several of his neighbours to their narrow cells.

The island of Mull is about twenty-five miles long, and the same in breadth. The interior parts are very hilly, and covered with heath, but towards the coasts some tolerable slips of ground are to be seen, though these are trifling when compared with the whole island. On this account agriculture cannot be carried on to any considerable extent; but great numbers of black cattle are annually reared and exported, for which this country is very well adapted; and, indeed, it is chiefly from the sale of these that the peasantry make up their rents, which are now paid in specie. In general, however, the lands are let so high, that many of the small tenants cannot, with all their care, make up their rents by the sale of cattle: they are therefore obliged, after having tilled their little arable ground, to leave their families, and go to some of the southern districts, where they can be employed in making canals, or to some part where they can make kelp. In this way they contrive to save a little money, with which they return home before the time of their harvest.

There are scarcely any inclosures in this island, and as every family cultivates a little oats, barley, and flax, they are obliged to employ herds, to tend their cattle wherever they feed, to prevent their eating up the crops, as well as encroaching on the farms of their neighbours. This want of inclosures takes a number of hands from active employments, and at the same time gives to the herds habits of extreme indolence. The principal part of their occupation consists in sitting upon a bank, and

occasionally sending their dogs when the cattle are going astray: these docile and faithful animals save them all their labour. It is a pity that these herds are not taught some useful employment, which they might practise while thy tended the cattle—they might knit stockings, or set the teeth of cards.

The Mullish cattle are very much esteemed: they are easily fattened when removed to the low country, or to the rich pastures of England; their flesh is fine grained, juicy, and well tasted. The sheep of this island were, till very lately, of the small Highland breed, with very good wool, and sweet delicate flesh; but many of the hills are now stocked with low country sheep, particularly the Cheviot breed, which bring higher prices and are more prolific; these stand the winter here very well, as they come from parts where that season is vastly more severe than in the Hebrides: but their wool is not so fine, nor their flesh so well tasted. The tops of even the highest hills used formerly to be covered with black cattle, very few sheep being kept; but now the hills are stocked with sheep, and the low marshy grounds with black cattle. This is no doubt an improvement, for moss and marshy grounds are unfavourable to sheep, while the hills and mountains are much better suited to them than to black cattle.

On account of the manner in which the farms are stocked, and grounds cultivated, each farmer is obliged to keep several servants. It is both best and cheapest to have young men in

their own houses; but the armies have lately so drained the country of these, that they are glad to get persons with families. These servants are allowed grass for two or three cows, and a few sheep; they are likewise permitted to sow a fourth part of the ploughed ground, and take every fourth sheaf when the corn is cut. The herd has a cabin, and grass for a cow and some sheep, with a little ground for a crop.

AMONG the great obstacles to the improvement and prosperity of both the highlands and islands, as Dr. Smith observes, is the unhappy frequency of our wars. It has been computed, that between soldiers and sailors, every war takes from the county of Argyle alone, between 3,000 and 4,000 of its most active and able hands, the support of thousands more,* few of whom live to return to their native country. In comparison of this, how trifling are all the other losses by emigration.

THE proprietors, either to become persons of consequence in the eyes of government, or to increase their incomes by procuring the command of the regiments they raise, and many of them no doubt with a laudable view of serving their country, are ambitious to raise regiments and companies, and call upon their tenants for their sons. They have undoubtedly no longer a legal power to compel the young men to quit their parents and join the army, as was the case formerly; but few of the peasants

* Smith's Agricultural Survey of Agyleshire, p. 299.

have any leases, and the fear of losing their farms is a sufficient motive to induce them to comply. The laird perhaps comes to an old tenant, and says, My friend, I am raising a regiment, and must have your two sons: here is a certain sum as a bounty. The old man, with tears in his eyes, tells him that they are the support of his years, and of their aged mother, neither of whom are able to work, and that he cannot spare them. The laird probably replies, that he may certainly please himself, but that such a person has offered for more his farm: this hint is sufficient for the poor old man, and with tears in his eyes, he consents. Should he be obstinate, what is his situation? Whither can he go where he will not meet with similar conditions? Besides, there is generally a tacit agreement among the proprietors in different parts of the Highlands, not to receive any one as a tenant from another estate, unless he brings a certificate from his quondam laird. I believe that there are not many instances where this power has been carried so far, as to deprive a man of his farm, but I have heard of some, and the tenants know the consequences too well, not to consent with a good grace, on the first application. Hence the reader will easily perceive, that though the feudal claims have been abolished, the Highland chieftain has nearly the same power as ever over his vassals; and will have till long leases are granted, which will render the tenants a little more independent.

AGRICULTURE is here in a very low state, and though it is

capable of improvement, it cannot probably be carried to the extent of supplying the inhabitants with corn. The arable land, as was before observed, lies for the most part near the shore; the soil, even there, is in general but barren, being a light reddish earth, mixed with moss, of very little depth, and very much under water. The spots which deserve a more favourable description, are in proportion very few. The common crop is a very inferior kind of oats, which the inhabitants call small oats; they are sown about the end of March, and it is generally October, and sometimes November, before they are ripe. The common return is three seeds, and so light that two bolls of oats only make one of meal. Barley is sown about the end of April, and is ripe about the end of August; it generally returns from six to ten seeds; and when sown in old ground, manured with sea ware, it sometimes produces sixteen fold; this, however, is very rare. The greatest part of the barley is made into whiskey, which is much too commonly used in the Highlands. The late act obliging distillers to take out a licence, has undoubtedly diminished the number of stills in the Highlands, yet, in most of the sequestered glens, each distils his own spirits, without any fear of detection from the officers of the revenue. It is much to be wished that this pernicious poison could be banished from the country, and good malt liquor, which might be made with one-fourth the trouble, used in its stead. Surely no revenue arising from its consumption can be any compensation for its bad effects on the health and morals of society.

POTATOES grow here extremely well; they are sown in lazy-beds by the spade, and are the chief subsistence of the poor people for three-quarters of the year. Before the introduction of this useful root, for which we are indebted to America, and which is more valuable than all the gold of Mexico, all the diamonds of Golconda, or all the tea of China, the distresses of the highlanders, and particularly the inhabitants of the western islands, were frequently very great. Depending on a little meal, which constituted the chief part of their food, their hopes were frequently blasted; their corn rotted on the ground, and they were glad to drink the blood of their cattle, or bake it into cakes, to keep their families just alive. They had no money to purchase corn, even could it have been purchased. This failure of crops, through a long continuance of wet weather, happens on an average every third or fourth year; but potatoes now prove a comfortable support through the winter, when grain and meal fail. Such distress is now seldom experienced, and were the fisheries properly encouraged, would be entirely unknown.

THE chief manure made use of in this island, is sea-ware, and in some parts shell-sand. The dung of horned cattle will go but little way, as the convenience for housing them is so small; but cattle are generally folded in some part of the ground, during the night, in summer and harvest; this is called teathing, and is one way in which the ground is manured. As there are few cart roads, the manure, whether sea-ware, shell-sand, or dung, is carried on the backs of horses, in baskets or creels,

which wastes a great deal of time. The plough commonly made use of in this island is very rude, and is probably the same that has been used for centuries back: it is drawn by four horses a-breast. They seem to use it, because they are not acquainted with a better. There are no plough-makers, so that each farmer is obliged to make his own, which he does in the manner of his forefathers. Should any of the proprietors encourage a proper maker to settle, or give ploughs to their tenants, the advantage would soon be apparent.

But the greatest bar to improvements in agriculture, as well as to every kind of rural economy, is the want of leases; few of the lairds in the highlands, for I do not speak of Mull in particular, will let the land otherwise than from year to year, and if the tenant choose to have a house, he must build one himself. The land is generally let to the highest bidder by private offer: how then can the tenant enter upon any improvements, when the next year he will probably lose his farm, unless he himself will pay for his own improvements by an advanced rent. In this dilemma, if he does not find a hut upon his farm, he builds himself a cabin, such as has been described, scarcely sufficient to shelter him from the inclemencies of the weather. He likewike takes every thing he can off the ground, which is a great detriment to the laird. Should the proprietors grant leases of considerable length, and either build houses for the tenants, or encourage them to do it, by paying them the extra expense when they leave the farm, their lands would be much benefited, and

their rent rolls in a few years considerably augmented, while the tenants would enjoy some of the comforts of life, to which, as fellow-men, they are entitled. As the prices of corn and cattle increase, there can be no doubt that the proprietor should be entitled to a higher rent, which should in some measure keep pace with the increased value of these articles. But a proper plan for leases, in which this mutual advantage need not be lost sight of, might easily be devised: and such a one, with some modifications, is in my opinion given by the late patriotic Lord Kames, in his Gentleman Farmer. In a lease of this kind, he observes, what chiefly ought to be had in view, is to restrain the tenant from impoverishing the land, and yet leave him at liberty to improve it; resembling a British monarch, who has unbounded power to do good, but none to do mischief. But in this climate, the tenant should not be tied down to invariable rules of cropping; an unusual season of hot, cold, dry, or wet weather, will oblige him, for a year at least, to abandon the best plan of cropping that can previously be contrived.

WITHOUT a long lease, it is in vain to look for an improving tenant. The most approved method, and the most likely to prevent waste, is to fix a time certain, suppose nineteen, or two ninteen years, and add the life of the tenant who is in possession at the expiration of the time. A man never loses the hope of living longer; and he will never run out ground that he hopes to be long in possession of. By this means the tenant will be deluded into a course of management, equally profitable to

himself and his landlord. But suppose, that after liming and other expensive manure, the tenant should happen to die without reaping any profit. With this view, Lord Kames proposes to insert a clause in the lease, for paying to his representatives what sum the tenant's profit has fallen short of the expense.

He very properly excludes all assignees and sub-tenants; for where a tenant has it in his power to make his lease a subject of commerce, he will not be ready to lay out money in improvements. Among a number of excellent clauses in Lord Kames's proposed lease, is the following, on the supposition that the term is only nineteen years, which will excite the industry of the tenant to improve his farm, and at the same time secure to the landlord an increasing rent. At the expiration of the lease, the tenant shall be entitled to a second nineteen years, upon paying, suppose one-fifth more rent; unless the landlord choose to give him ten years purchase for that fifth part. The rent, for example, we will suppose to be 100*l.* The tenant offers for the next nineteen years 120*l.*: he is entitled to continue in his possession a second nineteen years, at the advanced rent, unless the landlord pay him 200*l.* If at the expiration of this term, he offer one-fifth more, the landlord cannot turn him out, unless he pay him ten years purchase for that offer. If, however, he chooses to leave his farm, without making the offer of the additional rent, the landlord is entitled to his improvements.

The greatest evil, however, in the highlands, is the letting

large farms to tacksmen, or persons who take them for no other purpose than to subset them. This practice is scarcely, if at all, known in England, but very common both in Scotland and Ireland, and is one principal source of the distressed state of the lower classes in both countries.*

One of these tacksmen takes a large farm of a proprietor, which he divides into a number of small ones, and lets at as high rent as he can, without any lease, his only object being to squeeze out as much money as he can from both the landlord and the poor tenants, who happen to come under his clutches, during the time he keeps possession. Dr. Smith, in his Agricultural Survey, compares those intermediate tenants to drones in a hive; they live upon the labours of others, and often beggar those beneath them, as well as intercept the advantages due to those above them. If the profits which these people enjoy for doing nothing, were divided as they ought between the

* In Ireland this system produces, if possible, still greater distress than in the highlands; the peasantry in that fertile country starve in the midst of plenty. They never eat butcher's meat from year to year, and yet immense quantities of beef and cattle are exported: they scarcely ever taste bread, yet great quantities of corn are annually sent out of the kingdom: they are almost naked, while their linen is sent in abundance to distant countries, and all this that the tacksmen, or middle men as they are there called, may live in indolence and luxury. Is it to be wondered then that they should be discontented? They are very ignorant, and imagine that whatever change should happen, their situations might be bettered. If the proprietors would let the lands themselves, by which means they would increase their own incomes, and allow their tenants to live comfortably, I apprehend, that the peasantry in that country would soon cease to be so turbulent. The experiment is certainly worth making.

labouring tenant, and the proprietor, the first would be at his ease, and the last obtain considerable accession to his income.

THE natural disadvantages of the highlands and islands are such as one would think ought to induce the proprietors, by every means in their power, to soften the rigours of the lot of those who are born, and live upon these bleak and dreary hills. The only parts capable of cultivation, are the valleys or glens around the bases of the mountains, which having the sun for a few hours only, vegetation is palsied, and advances slowly, the harvest being always very late. The climate is equally discouraging to the purposes of agriculture; the spring is bleak and piercing, if indeed there can be said to be any spring; but there are, properly speaking, only two seasons, winter and summer: the winter snows and frosts continue very late, and are seldom subdued, till the summer season brings forward at once the imperfect vegetation; and the crops before they are ripe, begin to be nipped by the keen blasts of the winter.* This latter

* It is generally asserted by old people, that the seasons in Britain have undergone a considerable change, even within the memory of the present generation. The winters seem to have lost their ancient horrors, and frequently assume the mildness of spring; while our summers are said to be less favourable than formerly, being much more cold and wet, less genial in promoting vegetation, and, in particular, much less efficacious in bringing to maturity the fruits of the earth. Some impute this to the querulous disposition of the farmer, the chill sensations of old age, or the predilection which every one feels for the cheerful days of childhood, when every thing pleases a mind that has not been soured by commerce with the world.

That this complaint, however, is not without foundation, there is good reason to believe. In many parts of the west highlands, where wood formerly existed in

season is long and tempestuous, and, during its continuance, the people are almost entirely cut off from all communication with

great quantities, a tree can now be scarcely made to grow. Morven is generally denominated by Ossian, "woody." It is now in a great measure destitute of wood, neither is it possible to rear trees of any size: those that are planted, if they do not soon die, have always a sickly appearance, and are stinted in their growth. Mr. Austin, one of the magistrates of Glasgow, an excellent botanist, and extensively engaged in the nursery line, is decidedly of opinion, that a considerable change for the worse has taken place: he informs me that several vegetables, and particularly the Lauristinus and *Laurus nobilis*, or sweet-bay, grew in health and vigour with his father; but that these plants have not been able to exist in similar soil and situation since 1775. In the Statistical Account of Kilwinning, in Ayrshire, are the following observations, in confirmation of this opinion: "It is in the recollection of many still living, that the summers, in this part of the country at least, are much more wet and cold than they were fifty years ago. By men of undoubted veracity it is asserted, as an absolutely certain fact, that, at that period, the farmers in ploughing for barley, about the middle of the month of May, were under the necessity of beginning to plough so very early as three o'clock in the morning, and to leave off at eight. The heat at that hour became so intense, that it was impossible for them to continue their work any longer; nor could they begin again, till between four and five o'clock in the afternoon. For a number of years past, quite the reverse has been the case. The month of May, in particular, has been very cold and wet, and unfavourable to vegetation: and in some years we have had very little of what may be rekoned *summer weather*. The harvest, of course, then was much earlier than it has been since. In several parts of the neighbourhood, it is said, that the harvest was finished about the latter end of August." That such an alteration has taken place likewise in the climate of Ireland, is, I think, clearly shown by the Rev. W. Hamilton, of Favet. This gentleman, in some papers read before the Royal Irish Academy, has shown that the climate of that country is considerably changed within the memory of man: that the winters are milder, and the summers less warm: that the winds have likewise, of late years, blown with uncommon violence from the westward. He has also pointed out some interesting facts respecting trees, which formerly flourished in Ireland, but cannot now withstand the rigour of the seasons. There is little doubt that Great Britain, at least the western coast of it, will experience the effects of all these circumstances, though perhaps in an inferior degree. Though this change may not appear from meteorological observations, yet we are not to infer that it has not taken place; for the thermometer may mark the general temperature, or mean heat of the climate as unchangeable, and

the low countries, by beds of snow, impassable torrents, and pathless mountains on the one side; and by long and dangerous navigations on the other.

the rain-gauge may show that the usual quantity of rain falls; yet a more clouded atmosphere, or tempestuous winds, will blast the progressive maturity of harvest, and shatter the languid frame of declining age. Meteorological observations have not, however, been continued long enough, nor with sufficient accuracy, even to ascertain whether the mean heat continues the same; though it is probable it may, as the increased warmth of the winters will compensate for the coldness of the summers: besides, clouds, vapours, and the force of winds, are seldom registered with sufficient accuracy, though they must have been the principal causes that have contributed to this supposed alteration. It is well known, that the most prevalent winds blow from the westward; these winds are commonly mild in their temperature, and moist in their nature, and consequently very friendly to animal and vegetable life; but from whatever circumstances it has arisen, it would appear that they have of late years swept with uncommon violence over the surface of these isles; frustrating the usual effects of their genial properties. That they have blown with increased violence, Mr. Hamilton endeavours to show from the appearance of the trees, the rapid accumulation of sands, and unusual high tides, indicating an increased agitation of the ocean. I have in my possession a meteorological journal, which was kept for more than forty years by Mr. Hutchinson of Liverpool, an abstract of which was published in the fourth volume of the Manchester Memoirs. It contains, besides the common account of the barometer, thermometer, rain, &c. observations on the velocity of the winds and the heights of the tides twice a day; but I have not lately had sufficient time to make an abstract of this part: though it will be a laborious undertaking, I shall embrace the first opportunity of doing it, for it will determine with certainty, whether the velocity of the winds and height of the tides have increased since the commencement of the journal.

From the increased force of the winds, Mr. Hamilton explains the changes in the climate, which have been the complaint of the farmer, the gardener, and the aged. It is well known, that the surface of the ocean varies less from the mean annual temperature of its latitude, than land on the same parallel; or, that the surface of the sea is colder in summer, and warmer in winter, than the surface of the ground in the same latitude; this has been clearly shown by Kirwan. If then the prevalent winds of any country blow over an ocean situated in its parallel, that country will relatively be denominated temperate; it will be free from all extremes; the heats of

To these accumulated discouragements of nature, surely the proprietors ought to be humane and attentive. The rents ought

summer, and the colds of winter, will be checked by sea breezes of a contrary property; and the land, influenced by the neighbouring element, will more or less partake of the equability of temperature. Such is the case with all islands, and particularly with Great Britain and Ireland. The western winds visit us, modified by the temperature of the broad Atlantic Ocean, which they traverse in their career: they bring us the clouds teeming with moisture, collected in the course of three thousand miles along its surface. Hence the uniformity of temperature, and redundant humidity, which have always been marked as the distinguished characters of our climate, and which have been noticed by most writers ancient and modern. Tacitus, in his Life of Agricola, in speaking of the climate of this country, says *cælum crebris, imbribus ac nebulis fœdum.*

Since therefore the trees, sands, and tides seem to show that these winds have of late years blown with unusual violence; since they bear testimony that a large quantity of air thus directed, tempered, and surcharged, has passed over our lands; it plainly follows, that the climate must have felt the change; that it must have experienced colder summers and milder winters than formerly, approaching towards that equability of heat and redundance of moisture, which the farmer and gardener at present so heavily lament.

Why these westerly winds have ceased to bear the character of zephyrs, is not perhaps easy to say; we are not at present possessed of sufficient data whereon to found any well-grounded theory. The following ingenious queries are, however, modestly proposed by Mr. Hamilton.

1. Have not our winds become more violent, and the temperature of our seasons more equable, since our forests were cleared, and the country cultivated? And have not these winds, and that equability of temperature, been nearly proportioned to these circumstances?

2. Have not similar changes occurred under analogous circumstances in North America; even in Canada, that country of extremes in heat and cold; and did not the island of Bermudas, though situated so much to the southward of us, become barren of fruit in consequence of the destruction of its timber trees?

3. Has it not appeared from observations, on the ascent of balloons, and the motion of clouds, that the lower mass of air often pursues a different course from the upper stratum? May not then the limits of our stormy currents of air, be confined within a few hundred yards of the surface of the earth? And if so, is it

to be moderate; they will admit of a gradual augmentation, according to the increasing price of provisions; but if the rents have been tripled, while the prices of cattle had not been doubled, can it be expected that the tenant should enjoy any degree of comfort, or that it should diminish their regret at leaving their native hills, where their ancestors have long resided, and which they would never quit as long as they could acquire a comfortable provision for their families. Mr. Knox's description of the distresses of the highlands, has often affected me with horror, even when I hoped it was exaggerated: but my own observation, and information which I have obtained from intelligent and humane individuals, convince me that his picture is not too high coloured. Absolute starvation is not indeed so common, since the introduction of potatoes, but other circumstances remain very nearly the same.

not possible, and even probable, that the frequent interruption of forests, groves, and hedge-row trees, might have formerly very much retarded, and finally checked, the progress of a tempest?

4. Have not all the countries of Europe, Asia, and America, within the parallel of our island, been very much denuded of their forests within the present century? And has not the increased velocity of the westerly winds been proportioned to this destruction of the forests and trees?

5. Is it not probable, since the prevalent winds of our parallel have a westerly tendency, that circumstances which have removed impediments to their career round the entire globe, may have increased the volocity of their course?

Whether so diminutive an animal as man, so temporary in duration, so impotent in strength, acting through the lengthened period and persevering efforts of a large portion of his species, can reasonably be deemed equal to the involuntary production of such vast effects; to a change even of the elements and climates of the earth, may admit of doubt, opposition, and denial; for which reason he has simply proposed them as matters of inquiry.

If, with great labour and fatigue, says this humane and patriotic man, the farmer raises a slender crop of oats and barley, the autumnal rains often baffle his utmost efforts, and frustrate all his expectations; and instead of being able to pay an exorbitant rent, he sees his family in danger of perishing during the winter, when he is precluded from any possibility of assistance elsewhere.

Nor are his cattle in a better situation: in summer they pick up a scanty support among the morasses, and heathy mountains; but in winter, when the grounds are covered with snow, and when the naked wilds afford them neither shelter nor subsistence, the few cows, small, lean, and ready to drop down through want of pasture, are brought into the hut where the family resides, and frequently share with them their little stock of meal, which had been purchased or raised for the family only; while the cattle thus sustained, are bled occasionally, to afford nourishment for the children after it has been boiled, or made into cakes.*

The sheep being left upon the open heaths, seek to shelter themselves from the inclemencies of the weather, amongst the shallows upon the lee-side of the mountains; and here they are frequently buried under the snow for several weeks together. In

* This practice of bleeding cattle, though common when Mr. Knox wrote, is now little used since the introduction of potatoes: it is still, however, resorted to occasionally.

this situation, they eat their own and each others wool, and hold out wonderfully against cold and hunger; but even in moderate winters, a considerable number are found dead after the snow has disappeared, and in rigorous seasons few are left alive.

MEANWHILE the steward or factor, hard pressed by letters from the gaming-house, or Newmarket, demands the rent in a tone which makes no great allowance for unpropitious seasons, the death of cattle, and other accidental misfortunes; the laird's wants must be supplied.

SUCH is the state of farming, if it may be so called, throughout the interior parts of the highlands; but as that country has an extensive coast, and many islands, it may perhaps be supposed that the inhabitants of those shores are in a much better situation. This is, however, as yet, by no means the case; those gifts of nature, which in other commercial countries would have been subservient to the most valuable purposes, are here lost, or nearly so, to the natives, and to the public. The only difference, therefore, between the inhabitants of the interior parts, and those of the most distant coast or island, consists in this; that the latter, with the labours of the field, have to encounter alternately the dangers of the ocean, and all the fatigues of navigation.

To the distressing circumstances at home, which have been already described, new difficulties and toils await the devoted farmer when abroad. In hopes of gaining a little money to pay

his rent, or a little fish to support his family, he leaves his wife and infants at the commencement of the fishery in October, accompanied by his sons, brothers, and frequently an aged parent; and embarks in a small open boat, in quest of herrings, with no other provisions than oatmeal, potatoes, and fresh water; no other bedding than heath or brushwood; one end of the boat being covered with an old sail to defend them from the inclemencies of the seas and skies. Thus provided, he searches from bay to bay, through turbulent seas, frequently for several weeks together, before the shoals of herring are discovered. The glad tidings seem to vary, but not to diminish his fatigues. Unremiting nightly labour, pinching cold winds, heavy seas, uninhabited shores, covered with snow, or deluged with rains, contribute towards filling up the measure of his distresses: while to men of such exquisite feelings as the highlanders generally possess, the scene which awaits him at home, does it most effectually.

Having realized a little money among country purchasers, he returns with the remainder of his capture, through a long navigation, frequently amidst unceasing hurricanes, not to a comfortable home and cheerful family, which would make him forget his toils and smile at past dangers; but to a turf cabin, environed with snow, and almost hid from the eye by its great depth. Upon entering his solitary mansion, he generally finds part of his family lying upon heath or straw, languishing through want or epidemical disease; while the few surviving cows, which possess the other end of the cottage, instead of

furnishing further supplies of milk and blood, demand his immediate attention to keep them in existence.

THE season now approaches, when he is again to delve and labour the ground, on the same slender prospect of a plentiful crop, or a dry harvest. The cattle which have survived the severity of the winter, are turned out to the mountains; and having put his domestic affairs into the best situation, which a train of accumulated misfortunes admit of, he resumes the oar in search of the white fishery. If successful in this, he sets out in his open boat upon a voyage of 200 miles, to vend his cargo of cod, ling, &c. at Greenock or Glasgow. The produce, which seldom exceeds in value twelve or fifteen pounds, is laid out, in conjunction with his companions, in meal and fishing tackle: and he returns through the same tedious navigation.*

THE autumn calls his attention again to the field; the usual round of disappointment, fatigue, and distress awaits him; thus he drags through a wretched existence, in the hopes of soon arriving at that country, where the weary shall be at rest.

IN the time of war, these poor wretches, while engaged in the fisheries to keep their drooping families in existence, are indiscriminately pressed, without regard to cases or circumstances, however distressing to the unhappy victims or their families.

* Should the Crinan canal be completed, and the dues sufficiently low, this tedious navigation will be avoided.

These virtuous, but friendless men, while endeavouring by every means in their power to pay their rents; to support their wives, their children and their aged parents: in short, while they are acting in every respect the part of honest, inoffensive subjects, are dragged away from their families and connections.

THE aged, the sick, and the helpless, look in vain for their return. They are heard of no more. Lamentations, cries, and despair, pervade the village or the district. Thus deprived of their main support, the rent unpaid, the cattle sold or seized, whole families are reduced to the extremity of want, and turned out amidst the inclemencies of the winter, to relate their piteous tale, and implore from the wretched but hospitable mountaineers, a little meal or a little milk, to preserve their infants from perishing in their arms.*

CAN we wonder, when we reflect upon all these unpleasant circumstances, that the resentment of human nature should sometimes break forth, and even overcome the fond attachment to the native soil, so natural to every one? Some, who had served in the American war, having settled in that country, were desirous that their friends should partake of their good fortune, instead of tilling a wretched soil, which, after all their labour, would not, at least, return above three-fold, they could, for less money than paid one year's rent for these grounds, pur-

* Knox's View of the British Empire, Vol. I. p. 126.

chase others of equal or greater extent, where the return would be twenty or thirty-fold, where the climate was genial, and where they could transmit their possessions and improvements to their children. Some transmitted these sentiments by letters; others returning to take leave of their native land, and the friends of their youth, delivered their opinions. They exhorted their countrymen to exchange their barren heaths for boundless plains of America; and set forth, often in too high colours, its numerous advantages. In consequence of these representations, great numbers were induced to accompany them; and between the years 1773 and 1775, above 30,000 persons from different parts of the highlands, crossed the Atlantic, and since that time numbers have followed.

I HAVE given this picture of distress nearly in Mr. Knox's own words; his zeal for the improvement of the highlands is well known, and his veracity will not be questioned. What has been mentioned, though introduced in this place, does not apply particularly to Mull, but is common to many of the Hebrides, and a great part of the highlands. Mr. Knox says, that in his journeys through the north of Scotland, he has frequently met families or bodies of people, travelling towards the ports. They generally edged off the road, and hurried along, as if shy of an interview; suspecting, perhaps, that they might meet with their landlords or tacksmen. This interview he was desirous to procure, and upon finding their flight interrupted, not by a hostile or dangerous force, but by a single individual upon a small horse,

in the midst of uninhabited wilds, he who could speak the best English, generally stepped forth, with a dejected countenance, while his companions, and especially the children, seemed to remain in eager suspense. The motive of these interviews, led to inquiries respecting the causes of their emigration, the state of their finances, and their notions of the country to which they were going. They represented their distresses with great feeling, most generally in tears; and with a strict regard to truth, as appeared from the uniformity of the accounts delivered by the different companies which he met, who were strangers to each other. "O, Sir," they would say, "we do not leave our country without good reason. Sometimes our crops yield little more than the seed; and sometimes they are destroyed by rains, or do not ripen; but some of our lairds make no allowance for these misfortunes: they seize our cattle and furniture, leaving us nothing but the skins, which would be of no use to them. O, Sir, can you tell us any thing about the country of America? They say poor folks may get a living in it, which is more than we can do here. We are driven with our poor children to a distant land. We are begging our way to Greenock, with all our clothes on our backs, as you see. God forgive our oppressors, who have brought us to this. We are quite strangers in the Lowlands; could you advise us, Sir, how to make a bargain with the captain of the ship? They say, that those who have no money to pay their passage, must sell themselves to the captain: this is our case. O, Sir, what have we done?—but it is the will of God, blessed be his holy name."

Such was the language of these people, who were going into voluntary slavery, at the distance of three thousand miles from their native place: for it was a custom a few years ago, and I believe exists still, that those who had not money to pay their passage, agreed with the captain to serve any proprietor he chose, for a certain number of years; the former actually selling the poor wretch, for that time, to the latter, as soon as he arrived in America.

But it is time to leave these digressions, into which I was drawn by the desire of exciting in proprietors a sense of their situation, and in the country at large, a sense of the danger arising from these sources of depopulation. Should the people, driven by despair, quit their native country for ever, of what avail will be the barren hills to the proprietors? The loss to the country cannot be better described, than in the words of Goldsmith:

"Ill fares the land, to hast'ning ills a prey,
While wealth accumulates, and men decay;
Princes and lords may flourish, or may fade,
A breath can make them, as a breath has made:
But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroy'd can never be supplied."

I must not forget to mention the manufacture of Kelp, or Soda, from sea-ware, which is carried on in the island of Mull, and indeed most of the other islands, and which has added very much to the incomes of the proprietors. Upon every part of the

coast there are various kinds of sea-weeds, or wrack, as it is called, which were, till lately, used indiscriminately as manures. This useful material, which has contributed so much to enrich the proprietors, and afford employment to many hands, during the season, does not appear to have been known as a manufacture in Britain, until the beginning of the present century: this was owing to the backward state of the soap and glass manufactories in this country, in both of which great quantities of alkali are used, and which have not been carried on with spirit in Scotland more than thirty years.

THE first introduction of the kelp manufacture, was into the island of Uist, about the year 1730, by a Mr. M'LEOD, who brought it from Ireland, where it had been carried on for several years. His method was, however, a bad one, for he contented himself with merely reducing the sea-ware to ashes; but this was soon given up, and the plan of fusion, which is now followed, adopted. This manufacture soon found its way into the other islands, and began to form an article of trade, even in Shetland, very soon after its introduction into the Hebrides. The quantity of kelp at first made was very small; but the great increase and rapid progress of the manufactures depending upon it, soon raised the price, and increased the quantity. At first, the price was so small, that it would do little more than pay for manufacturing, but it augmented very rapidly. The following account, given by Mr. Jameson, in his ingenious "Outlines of the Mineralogy of the Shetland Islands, &c." contains pretty

nearly the price of kelp, from the year 1740, to the present time:

				l.	s.	d.	
From 1740 to 1760	average price about			2	5	0	a ton.
1760 to 1770	—	—	—	4	4	0	
1770 to 1780	—	—	—	5	0	0	
1780 to 1790	—	—	—	6	0	0	

Since the year 1791, its value has increased still more rapidly, partly owing to the extension of the manufactures before-mentioned, but chiefly to the war, which has prevented the importation of the usual quantity of barilla, and has raised kelp to the enormous price of 11*l.* a ton. The benefit of this manufacture to the proprietors will be evident, when it is known, that small farms on the coasts, which within these seven years, only paid 40*l.* rent, haven risen to 300*l.* a year.

THE cost of manufacturing kelp in the Hebrides is about thirty shillings a ton, which allows an immense profit. I believe that not less than 500 tons are annually made in Mull, at least since the price has been so high; for the quantity made, varies according to the price it draws.

THE method of manufacturing this article is very simple. The different species of *fuci*, particularly the *fucus vesiculosus*, or button wrack, and *fucus serratus*, or lady wrack, when fully grown in the sea, are forced continually, by the flux of the tides, against rocks, to which they adhere, and on which they grow, covering them not unfrequently to a considerable depth. These

marine plants, in the months of May, June, and July, are cut from the rocks, spread out, and dried, so as to enable them to burn more easily. When the ware is sufficiently dried, a pit is dug upon the shore, generally in the sand, about seven feet wide, and three or four feet deep, and lined with small stones. A fire is next kindled at the bottom, and the dried fucus laid upon it by degrees; fresh quantities are added, until the pit is nearly filled, and the whole is then frequently stirred; towards the evening it gets into a semi-fluid state; it is then allowed to cool; the pit is covered with stones and turf, in such a manner as to keep out the wet, and the kelp is ready for the market.*

THE growing of fuci upon shores, is now become an object of considerable consequence, not only from their value, as affording kelp, but also on account of their great use as manures. It has therefore been recommended to roll stones upon the shores, which in many places can be done at a small expense, and these, in two years, will be covered with such quantities of fuci, as to be worth cutting. Calcareous stones are found to be the best for this purpose.

THE climate of Mull is very moist, the rains being frequent and heavy. Severe gales of wind from the west are likewise common. But the winters, not only here, but in the whole of the western islands, are much more temperate than in the inland

* Jameson's Outlines of the Mineralogy of the Shetland Islands.

parts of Scotland. This is owing to the intense cold being moderated by the surrounding ocean, the temperature of which keeps pretty nearly the same, during the whole year. The ground is seldom wholly covered with snow, which, excepting on the hills, soon melts; nor are the frosts usually of long continuance; but the summers are generally wet, cold, and short.

THE following particulars are taken from Smith's Agricultural Survey:

Real rent of Mull - -	£.7,711 0 0
Valued do. - - -	744 11 0
Population in 1775 - -	5287
Do. in 1795 - - -	8016
Increase in 40 years - -	2729
Supposed extent in square miles	425

FROM this may be deduced, that the population is between 18 and 19 to the square mile.

I SUPPOSE that the population in the county of Argyle, may be taken as the average population of the highlands in general, or perhaps somewhat more, as there are two considerable towns in it, namely, Inverary and Campbeltown, as well as the village of Oban. Now, from Dr. Smith's table, it may be calculated, that the population of this county is between 17 and 18 for the square mile, so that the island of Mull has its share of population. The island of Great Britain, upon an average, contains

109 inhabitants in the square mile,* so that the population of the highlands is only about one-sixth of the average population of Britain, or one-ninth of the population of England.

THE common language of Mull is the Gaelic, though several can speak English: and were the schools properly encouraged, this language would gain ground fast, but they are for the most part ill managed and ill attended; indeed, the encouragement given to school-masters, not only here, but in the greater part of the highlands, is insufficient to induce persons properly qualified to undertake this useful office. In general, the common labourers are better paid, and better able to support a family, than the school-masters.

THERE are two stated ferries in the island, one to Morven, and the other from Achnacraig to Kerrera, and thence to the main land near Oban. By this last, near 2000 black cattle are annually wafted over, for the several markets to which they are driven, besides a considerable number of horses; but in this number are included the black cattle from the isles of Col and Tiree, which are driven through Mull in their way to the low country.

JULY 17. We left our inn at Achnacraig, early in the morning, and proceeded up the north-east coast of Mull to Aros, eighteen miles distant. The road, which was chiefly made by

* Guthrie.

government, is very good; indeed it is almost the only passable road in the island. The country likewise put on a better appearance than we had yet observed; for some spots near the sea might be called fertile, and about a mile from the inn is a small plain finely wooded. To the right, we saw an old castle on a bold headland projecting into the sea, as most of the old highland castles do. This was Castle Duart, or Dowart, and was formerly the seat of the Macleans, the proprietors of the whole island. It is now in ruins, though some parts of it are so far inhabitable, as to afford accommodations to a small party of soldiers, sent hither from Fort William to prevent smuggling.

FROM this place, we had a fine view of Cruachan, on the main land, hiding his pointed top in the clouds; and immediately before us, across the sound of Mull, lay the ragged hills of Morven, a large peninsula, famous for being the residence of Fingal. The soil seems to have been in a great measure washed off, and the rocks left bare; there are none of the woods remaining, which are so often mentioned by Ossian. About five miles from Achnacraig, we passed on our left a neat house, the residence of Mr. ALLAN MACLEAN; and on the other side of the sound in Morven, we saw an old castle, the name of which we did not learn. About thirteen miles from the inn, we passed the ruins of an old church, near which were several tomb-stones, some of them very ancient, but several modern. We passed likewise several villages, or irregular collection of huts, many of which had a very wretched appearance, being built of earth,

with wicker doors. They were by much the worst that we had seen.

At Aros,* are the ruins of an old castle, built upon a steep rock towards the sea, and which appears to have been secured on the land side by a moat and a draw-bridge. It has evidently been intended as a place of strength, and is said to have been built by Macdonald, Lord of the Isles, who resided there some time; but at what period, or how long, we could not ascertain.

Near the castle is a neat modern house, the residence of Mr. Maxwell, factor to the Duke of Argyle, by whom we were hospitably entertained, and who sent a guide with us to Torloisk; for we here left the good road, which is continued from Aros to Tobermory,† a village lately built by the British society for encouraging fisheries, who have a property of about 2,000 acres, the greatest part of which, however, is hill or moss; the ground for tillage lying in detached spots near the harbour, is not considerable either for extent or quality.

The situation of Tobermory is an excellent one for the purpose of a village and sea-port; it possesses a fine bay, which is sheltered by the small island Calve lying before it, and is situated

* *Aros*, in Gaëlic, signifies the mansion or habitation, and is a name applicable to the residence of any family of distinction.

† *Tobermory* signifies the well of the Virgin Mary.—*Calve*, the small island without the bason, which covers one side of it, signifies in Gaëlic, *harbour-side*.

in the track of the shipping, which pass from the western parts of Britain to the northern countries of Europe, and has an easy communication by water with the fishing-lochs in one direction, and with the Firth of Clyde, Liverpool, and other considerable towns in the other.

The society began to form this village in the year 1788; and a custom-house and post-office were established here in the year 1791. The village consists of about twenty houses, built with stone and lime, and covered with slate; besides these, there are about thirty huts or thatched houses. The population is about 300. A few persons follow the mercantile line, and serve the settlers and neighbouring districts with goods imported from the low country. A house has been lately built here by the Stevensons of Oban, who carry on some trade. A boat-builder and cooper have settled here, and find pretty constant employment in the building of boats, and making of barrels for the herring fishery. There is likewise a considerable salt store kept here, for supplying the busses and boats in the fishing season.

As we had not an opportunity of visiting this new settlement, the preceding description is taken partly from what was related to us, but chiefly from Mr. Mac Arthur's Statistical Account.

The distance from Aros to Torloisk is about fifteen miles, and the road, if the indistinct path over which we travelled deserves the name, is the most rugged, stony, and mountainous I ever

saw. We were, however, amply recompensed for our labour, by the very hospitable reception we met with from Mr. Maclean of Torloisk,* and his good lady.

Mr. Maclean's house is large and elegant, and unquestionably the best in the island. It is situated on a rising ground above the sea, having in front the islands of Gometra and Ulva, with a view of Icolmkill, Staffa, Dutchman's Cap, and several other islands rising up like black spots out of the ocean. The situation is delightful in summer, but must be very bleak in winter, as it has nothing to shelter it from the storms of the west, which are by much the most frequent.

As we wished to visit Staffa the next morning, our worthy host Torloisk † procured us a boat belonging to some of his tenants in the island of Gometra, which was engaged to come over for us at an early hour.

July 18. The boat came at the time appointed; but the morning being very stormy, we could not venture to visit Staffa.

* *Torloisk*, in Gaëlic, signifies "the burnt hill."

† It is scarcely necessary to mention, that the highland lairds, instead of being called by their proper names, are distinguished by the name of their property; this undoubtedly originated from the difficulty of distinguishing the different families of the same name and clan. All the proprietors of Mull were formerly Macleans! at present there are several of that name, but the principal are Maclean of Lochbuie, and our host, both of whom are distinguished by the name of their residence; so that this distinction, which originated in the necessity, is continued as a title.

We did not, however, find our time hang heavy on our hands, for we were entertained with the most friendly hospitality: this delay likewise gave me an opportunity of extending my notes, and making observations on this side of the island.

The mineralogical appearance of this island is very different from what we had hitherto seen: instead of granite, porphyry, or micaceous schistus, which we had almost constantly met with, a considerable part of the parish of Torosay, and I suspect a great part of the island, at a considerable depth, consists of whinstone, which does not differ from basalt in its chemical properties, nor indeed in any other respect than the coarseness of its grain. As we approached Aros and Torloisk, most of the rocks were of the basaltic kind, and often assumed a regular form. Not far from Aros I saw some white lava, similar to that described by Dolomieu, in his "Memoires sur l'Isle de Ponces." There is some limestone in the island, but difficult of access. Some seams of coal have likewise been found in different parts: there is one about three feet thick, in a hill called Beinanini; this has not however been worked with advantage, though it most probably might. The quality of the coal seems very good. This seam is the property of Sir James Riddel, of Ardnamurchan. A seam about eighteen inches thick, appears upon the sea-cost of Ross, the property of the Duke of Argyle. Coal has likewise been discovered in Brolass and Gribun, the property of Captain Maclean of Kinlochlavin.

To the botanist this island is by no means interesting. On several of the hills I found the *Gentiana Amarella*, and in the neighbourhood of Torloisk, the *Arbutus uva-ursi* grows in considerable quantity.

Among the proverbs which are common in this and some of the islands, is the following one: when you meet with ingratitude from a person who has been benefited by your means, where you had reason to expect a very different conduct, it is common to say, "what a fool was I to burn my harp for him or her."* This proverb is very common in Mull, and the following circumstance is said to have given rise to it.

In former times, there lived in this island a celebrated harper, married to a young woman of exquisite beauty, whom he tenderly loved. The musician excelled all his cotemporaries in taste and execution; but it was said that he owed part of his fame to an instrument so admirably constructed, that no artist could hope to equal, much less surpass it. Next to his wife, it was the pride and joy of his heart, and his companion wherever he went.

This pair went to visit a relation, who was sick, on the opposite coast. It was winter, and those who are acquainted with this rugged island, will not wonder that a woman should sink under the cold and fatigue of the journey. The wind blew keen

* The Gaëlic proverb is, "Smeirg a loisgeadh a-thiompan ria."

and cold; they struggled against the blast, and at last reached the top of a high hill, which they could not avoid passing. Here, being quite exhausted, she fainted away. The husband, with the utmost tenderness, exerted himself for the preservation of a life so dear to him; and perceiving some symptoms of recovery, he hastened to kindle a fire to warm her. He struck a flint, and received the sparks among a little dry heather, which he had collected with difficulty; for the place was too high and exposed to produce even this plant in abundance, though a native of barren soils. In this penury of fuel, the good man scrupled not to sacrifice his beloved harp, breaking it in pieces, and feeding the flames with its fragments.

While he was thus occupied, a young gentleman happened to be hunting at no great distance; and seeing the smoke, made towards it. He appeared to be greatly struck at seeing, in that situation, a beautiful woman in distress, whilst she was so much disordered at the sight of the stranger, that the husband dreaded another fit. The youth made many professions of sympathy and concern; and offered them some spirits and provisions, which he had with him. This was accepted with gratitude, for they had set out in a hurry, and were ill provided for the accident; and without the aid of some cordial, it was scarcely possible for the wife to hold out, till they had reached some habitation.

Her agitation, however, subsided by degrees, and she was prevailed on, with some entreaty, to partake of the repast. In a

little time her spirits revived, and she seemed to make light of her disaster. The joy of the husband was excessive, nor did he once regret the loss of his favourite harp. He was pleased to see his wife exert herself with so much alacrity to entertain the youth to whom they were so highly indebted. The conversation became soon so animated and particular, that a less happy husband, with the slightest tincture of jealousy in his temper, would have suspected that this was not their first meeting. The fact was, they were old acquaintances, though, as the young man saw her not disposed to recognize him, he chose to behave as a stranger.

THE woman had been brought up by a grandmother, whose name she bore, and from whom her family had expectations. Her grandmother's house was in another island, and very near that of the youth's father. They had been companions from early infancy, and in all the little pursuits of childhood, had ever chosen each other as associates. As they advanced in years, this fondness

Grew with their growth, and strengthen'd with their strength.

THIS affection was not a little increased by the pastoral life then led by both sexes of young highlanders; for at that time, when, in other countries, boys of his age would have been at school, his chief employment was hunting, fishing, or listening to the Celtic songs and tales, which were the delight of all ranks of people, this way of life gave him frequent opportunities

of seeing his fair one, whose beauty daily increased. Their friendship was fast ripening into love, when her grandmother died, and she returned to her native island, and to her father's house. From that time till the present, they had never met, or heard of each other, for the art of writing was not known there, and there was but little intercourse between the different islands.

THEY were both much afflicted at the separation; not that they thought of marriage; for, besides that he was too young, there was an insurmountable bar to their union. He was born a *Duin-wassal,* or gentleman; she a vassal, or commoner of an inferior tribe; and whilst ancient manners and customs were religiously adhered to, by a primitive people, the two classes kept perfectly unmixed in their alliances. In those times, a gentleman of no fortune, or, as Dr. Johnson would have said, a beggar of high birth, was respected by his countrymen, and addressed in the plural number; whereas a commoner, though possessed of considerable property, was saluted with *thou* or *thee,* and, however rich, could not pretend to ask the hand of the poorest gentlewoman.

THIS, however, had been no bar to their friendship; for, in every age and country, boys and girls, when left to themselves, pay little regard to these accidental circumstances in the choice of their companions; spirit, generosity, and pleasing manners, being the qualities that bind young hearts together.

Her marriage did not take place till two years after their separation, and was what might be called, on her side, a prudential one. She had no objection to the musician, who was a man of property, and respected; she gave him her hand, when he had no interest in her heart. Her first love still lurked there, though reason and virtue exerted themselves to expel him. In the course of a few months, the worth and tenderness of her husband, and a laudable desire of standing well in the opinion of the world, had greatly weakened these impressions; so that hitherto she had acted her part in the marriage state, with propriety and applause. A meeting, however, so romantic and unexpected as the present was too strong a temptation. A thousand tender incidents of childhood and youth crowded into her recollection, and too successfully suggested, that the companion of her happiest years, was alone worthy of her love.

The young man, on his part, was equally captivated; and, indeed, the charms which had so touched his heart in early youth, were now in full bloom, and, in his opinion, much improved; and guessing by her demeanour, and the language of her eyes, that he still maintained a place in her affections, he listened enamoured to her conversation, which, being in the presence of her husband, was lively and innocent: while, hurried away by the impulse of passion, his purpose was to carry her off to a distant island, where they were both unknown.

THE husband at length proposed to his wife to proceed on their journey, when the stranger politely offered to accompany them a few miles. By the way he found means to whisper his scheme, and was glad to find his old mistress as impatient as he could wish, to abandon, for his sake, all that a virtuous woman holds dear. Such was the return she made to her husband, for all his tenderness and love! and so blind was she to that misery and shame which were soon to overtake her! They at length came to the foot of a mountain, where was a deep woody glen; here the artful woman complaining of thirst, the fond and unsuspecting husband ran to a stream, which he saw at a distance, while the guilty pair made their elopement, and were out of sight in an instant. But who can paint the situation of the husband at his return? Bereaved thus both of his wife and his harp, he exclaimed, in an agony of grief, "Fool that I was, to burn my harp for thee!"*

JULY 19th. The weather still continuing stormy, there was no possibility of visiting Staffa; but in the society of Torloisk and the ladies, we were not disposed to complain. It was not without surprize, I must confess, that in an island of the Hebrides, far from the gay and busy world, we met with elegant society, and every comfort and convenience that could have been pro-

* The substance of this tale was told me by a native of Mull. I afterwards found it related in The Bee, from which I have taken it, with some few alterations. Mr. M'Niel has made it the subject of a beautiful poem, entitled The Harp.

cured in the capital, with far more sincerity and hospitality. Mr. Maclean's family consisted, besides himself and his lady, of Mrs. Maclean's sister, and a female friend of theirs, both highly accomplished and agreeable.

BEFORE dinner, I took a walk with Mr. Watts, accompanied by our host, and two gentlemen from the island of Orancy, who came to Torloisk the preceding day. Almost all the rocks in the neighbourhood are basaltic; and a kind of honeycomb lava is very common, the cells of which are filled with bubbles of zeolite. During the last two days, I was consulted by several sick persons in the neighbourhood, to whom the worthy Mrs. Maclean administered medicines.

THOUGH it is much to be wished that the distresses of these poor islanders could be effectually alleviated, and their industry properly directed, yet it must be confessed, that if we compare their situation with the savage and fierce manners of former times, the present age will not lose by the comparison.

THE island of Mull, as well as several of the neighbouring isles, have often been the seats of the ravages of factious and perfidious chieftains, whose savage wars were continually raging. The heroes of Ossian were monsters delighting in gore, and boasting of their victims laid low.

THERE was some time ago published at Glasgow, a small book entitled, "The History of the Feuds and Conflicts among the Clans in the Northern Parts of Scotland, and in the Western Isles, from the Year 1031 unto 1619," from a manuscript written in the reign of James VI. which places in a strong light the character of those barbarous times. From these materials I shall endeavour to select the particulars of a quarrel between the Macdonalds of Cantyre, and the Macleans of Mull, which will not only give a good idea of the troubles of those days, but likewise show the manner in which a great part of this, and some other islands, became the property of the powerful family of Argyle.

DONALD GORME MACDONALD of Sleat, in the isle of Skye, being on a visit to his cousin ANGUS MACDONALD of Cantyre, landed with his suite, in the isle of Jura, part of which was the property of Maclean of Mull, the remainder belonging to his kinsman Macdonald. Being driven by contrary winds, he was under the necessity of landing on that part of the island belonging to Maclean. They were no sooner on shore than Macconnel Tearreagh, and Hutcheon Macgillespick, whom Donald Gorme, for certain offences, had driven out of Skye, and who had taken shelter in Jura, having learned to whom the vessel belonged, they contrived a very malicious scheme to draw upon him the resentment of Maclean. In the dead of night they drove away part of Macleans cattle, taking them on board their vessels, not doubting that suspicion, the evidence of barbarians, would fall

on Donald Gorme's party. In this conjecture they were not deceived; for Sir Lauchan Maclean, a young fiery chief, assembled his clan, and next night fell upon Gorme's party, and killed above sixty on the spot; Donald himself escaping with great difficulty, with the remainder, on board a ship that lay in the harbour.

When the news of this lamentable affair reached Angus Macdonald of Cantyre, it filled him with grief, as he was nearly related to both parties. Donald Gorme, being, as was before observed, his cousin, and he had married Maclean's sister. Dreading, therefore, the consequences of this quarrel, he was determined to employ his good offices in bringing about a reconciliation. With this view, he went to the isle of Skye, and had the satisfaction to find Donald Gorme by no means untractable. After remaining some time in this island with his kinsman, he, on his return to Cantyre, landed in Mull, and went to Castle Duart, the principal residence of Maclean, contrary to the advice of his brothers, Coll and Renald, and of his cousin Renald Maccoll, who wished him rather to send for Maclean, and inform him how he had succeeded with Donald Gorme, and then sound how far he might be inclined to a mutual reconciliation: but Angus Macdonald had so much confidence in his brother-in-law, Sir Lauchlan Maclean, that he paid no regard to their urgent intreaties; his brothers, dreading the consequence, left him, but his cousin Renald Macdonald, accompanied him to Castle Duart, where Maclean received him with great appearance of

kindness, and ave him hopes that his good offices might not be in vain; but after his unsuspecting guest had retired to rest, far other thoughts possessed the mind of this barbarous chief. Isla belonged to the clan Donald, and had been given to them for their personal services: but it seems that a claim had formerly been granted by the crown, whose policy was to sow discord among the chieftains, to Maclean, of some lands in that island called the Kinnes of Isla: this claim had long lain dormant, but the present was too good an opportunity to be neglected by the ambitious laird of Mull, who, throwing aside all scruples of integrity and honour, was determined to assert his claim. In the morning, with a confident air, he informed his astonished guest, that unless he would give up all title to the disputed lands in Isla, he must prepare to spend the rest of his life in captivity. The unfortunate Macdonald had no choice; he was therefore obliged to yield, and leave his eldest son James, and his cousin Renald, as hostages, until Maclean had taken possession of the lands in question.

This act of perfidy, as well as the injury received by Donald Gorme, roused the spirit of Angus Macdonald, who now considered himself as the party most injured, and meditated revenge; but being as cool as he was determined, he stifled all appearance of resentment till he could show it with effect. It was not long before an opportunity of retaliation presented itself. Maclean, wishing to take possession of his newly ceded territories, sailed for Isla, leaving one of his pledges, Renald, in fetters in the

dungeon of Castle Duart, and taking his nephew James along with him for his better security. On landing in Isla, he encamped at *Ellan-loch-gorme*, a ruinous fort, situated upon the Kinnes; but his situation being inconvenient, Angus Macdonald invited him to Mullintrea, a seat of his in the island, where he would be much better accommodated; he requested him to continue with him as long as his provisions should last, and that then he would accompany him to the house of some other laird; for it was a custom among the highland chiefs, to invite all strangers to their houses, whom, and their retinue, they treated with the greatest hospitality, as long as their provisions held out; when these were consumed, the laird accompanied his guest to the residence of a neighbouring chief, where the visit was limited by the same necessity.

In answer to this invitation, Maclean pleaded his distrust of Macdonald's sincerity, being conscious of having offended him. Macdonald asserted, that he had no reason to be suspicious of harm, as he was possessed of pledges which his friends might keep in custody till his return. Maclean, after some hesitation, complied, and went to Mullintrea, attended by eighty-six of his kinsmen and dependants, and accompanied by his nephew, the son of Macdonald, whom he always kept in his sight as a security from danger, no longer scrupling to accept an invitation from one, with whom he had just broken every right of hospitality and honour.

On their arrival, they were received with every appearance of welcome, and sumptuously banqueted during the day; but though Macdonald affected to participate in their mirth, his thoughts were otherwise employed. He had privately sent orders to his friends and followers to rendezvous in arms at his house, at a certain hour in the evening; these came punctually to the number of three or four hundred; and about midnight surrounded the house that had been appropriated for the reception of Maclean, which was a long building somewhat distant from the other houses, the habitation of a highland chief, consisting of several low buildings surrounding the castle, or place of security.

The house being surrounded by Macdonald's attendants, Angus himself knocked at the door, and called to Maclean, telling him, that he had brought him his reposing draught, which was forgotten to be given him before he went to bed. Maclean replied, that as the hour was so late, and he himself in bed, he did not intend to take it that night; upon which Macdonald told him, that whatever might be his intentions, he insisted on his instantly rising and receiving it. Maclean then began to suspect, and rising, opened the door, holding his young hostage before his breast to prevent any sudden attack. The boy perceiving his father with a drawn sword, and attended by a number of armed men, cried aloud for mercy for his uncle, which was granted, and Maclean was removed to the keep or prison of the castle till the next morning. Macdonald then proclaimed

liberty to the followers of Maclean, excepting Macdonald Tearreah, and another whom he named, who were suspected to have been their chief's principal advisers in his treacherous act at Castle Duart; these he commanded to come forth and deliver themselves, which they refused to do, dreading the consequences. He therefore ordered the house to be set on fire, and left them to perish in the flames.

Soon after the report of Maclean's captivity had reached Mull, Allan Maclean, one of his relations, thinking this a favourable opportunity to gratify his own ambition, caused a report to be spread in Isla, that Renald, Macdonald's brother, who had been left as a hostage in Mull, had been slain by order of Maclean; which false report he hoped would provoke Macdonald to kill his prisoner, and that then he, Allan Maclean, would seize on his estates. Nor was he quite mistaken, for Macdonald no sooner heard of the death of his brother, than he caused all the followers of Maclean, none of whom had yet left Isla, to be beheaded. Maclean, however, was spared, probably for a more exemplary punishment.

The superiority of Macdonald in this contest, now began to raise the jealousy of the Earl of Argyle, who had long envied the power of his neighbour. The territory of Cantyre lying on the shores of Loch Fyne, was contiguous to that of Argyle; and the island of Isla, belonging to Macdonald, was directly upon the coast. This insular situation gave him great power to injure his

neighbour: he had a navy in his ports, and could have sailed up Loch-Fyne to the very walls of Inverary. So powerful a neighbour had long created alarm, and an occasion of humbling him had been ardently wished for; a body of forces was therefore instantly raised, the ostensible motive of which was to adjust the quarrel between Maclean and Macdonald, but the real one, to check the power of the latter.

ARGYLE had, however, embarked in a matter vastly beyond his power; the address and abilities of Macdonald made him glad to draw back his forces. He therefore complained to the king, who sent a herald to order Macdonald to restore Maclean to liberty; but a highland chief did not easily at that time submit to a royal mandate: the messenger was interrupted, and finding the port shut, from whence he should have taken shipping to Isla, he returned home. At last, however, through the indefatigable perseverance of James Stewart, chancellor of Scotland, Maclean was, on some rigid conditions, exchanged for Renald. For the performance of these conditions, he gave his own son, and the son of Macleod of Harris, with several other hostages, to Macdonald, who immediately set sail for Ireland, to assist in the quarrel of a neighbouring chief upon the coast of that island.

MACLEAN no sooner heard of the departure of his enemy, than without either regarding the safety of his pledges, or his own faith, he invaded Isla, and carried fire and sword through that unfortunate island. Macdonald, however, though on his

return from Ireland he had been informed of this new act of perfidy, scorned to revenge himself on the innocent individuals in his power. The blood which he had shed at Mullintrea, had probably taught him this lesson of humanity. He, however, transported his troops to the island of Tiree, belonging to Maclean, and destroyed all the inhabitants and cattle; not content with this act of vengeance, he landed in Mull, and ravaged the whole island. The inhabitants could make no resistance, but flying before him like sheep, were slaughtered in almost every corner by the enraged chief.

Whilst Macdonald committed these outrages in Mull, Maclean was by no means backward in retaliating, but finding himself unable to cope with Macdonald in person, he went into Cantyre, and burnt and laid waste a great part of the country; they thus continued to vex each other with fresh slaughters and outrages, till they had very nearly depopulated both countries.

Soon after this, Maclean was guilty of another act of perfidy. John Maclean of Ardenmurchie, one of the clan Donald, had been a suitor of Maclean's mother, but his addresses, though favourably received by her, were forbidden by Maclean, the disposal of a mother in marriage being one of the privileges of a highland chief. Now, however, he was eager to bring about this match, hoping that he might induce his new father-in-law to join in a conspiracy against Macdonald: for this

purpose he invited Maclean to Mull, and the marriage was shortly after celebrated at Torloisk. After the nuptials, he sounded his father in law concerning the conspiracy, who received the proposal with disdain, refusing to act so perfidious a part against his friend and relation. This so enraged the chief, that in the middle of the night he broke into his chamber, tore him from his bride, threw him into prison, and slew eighteen of his attendants who had come to his assistance. This barbarous act, even in a barbarous country, was received with horror, and for a long time after, *Maclean's nuptials* became a proverb to express any thing infamous or horrible. Maclean detained his prisoner a whole year in captivity, but at last exchanged him for his own son, and the rest of the pledges in the hands of Angus Macdonald.

THESE two chiefs, Maclean and Macdonald, who had thus disturbed the tranquillity of the country for several years, were summoned to appear before the king at Edinburgh, in the year 1591, with the promise of a safe conduct to and from that city, and an assurance that no harm was intended, it being only the wish of his majesty to make up the quarrel between them. They no sooner arrived at Edinburgh, than they were arrested, shut up in the castle, and left to manage the dispute by themselves. The two chiefs soon became tired of confinement, and making the king a solemn promise not to disturb each other in future, they were liberated, on leaving their eldest sons as hostages for their obedience.

For several years did these two chiefs obey the king's injunction, neither party disturbing the other; but the restless and turbulent spirit of Sir Lauchlan Maclean was ill suited to tranquillity, and a highland quarrel in those days was seldom forgotten. Angus Macdonald being grown old, had committed the management of his affairs to his son James Macdonald, who was a very young man; this circumstance inspired the ambitious Maclean to assert his claim to the whole island of Isla; for which purpose he got his old grant renewed and enlarged, and assembling his whole force, sailed for the island with an intention of seizing possession. When James Macdonald heard this, he hastily raised his forces, and appeared in Isla soon after Maclean, in order to counteract the schemes of his uncle. Their common friends were very desirous of preventing bloodshed, and young Macdonald offered to give up half the island, though Maclean had no just title to any part of it, provided he would take it to be holden of the clan Donald, as his predecessors had done: he likewise offered to refer the matter in dispute to the king, so averse was he from a quarrel with so near a relation, or to renew the disturbances which had so long distracted both families. But Maclean rejected all offers of accommodation, unless his nephew would immediately resign to him the title and possession of the whole island. They therefore prepared for battle: Macdonald's party were inferior in numbers, but excellent soldiers, having been trained in the Irish wars, and long inured to discipline. A desperate conflict ensued, at the head of a small lake called Loch-Groinart, which was maintained with great courage for a

long time, without seeming advantage to either party. At length Macdonald ordered his vanguard to feign a retreat, and making a circuit, he gained the advantage of a neighbouring hill: here turning again, he charged his enemies with unexpected fury, who after an ineffectual struggle gave way. The turbulent chief was himself slain, fighting courageously, with about eighty of his kindred, and two hundred common soldiers. His son, Lauchlan Barrach Maclean, who was severely wounded, fled with the rest of his men to their ships, and quitted the island. Young Macdonald was himself dangerously wounded, being shot through the body with an arrow, and was left the whole night among the dead. In the morning, signs of life were perceived, and with great care he recovered, though never perfectly. About thirty of his party were killed, and sixty wounded. Thus ended, in the year 1598, the conflicts between these two clans, which had been begun and continued for thirteen years by the restless and ambitious laird of Mull, and terminated only with his death.

Before Maclean engaged in this last enterprize, he consulted one of the wëird sisters of these barbarous times, who gave him three responses; in the first, she forbade him to land in Isla on a Thursday; in the second, he was charged not to drink of the water of a well near Groinart; and in the third, he was told that one named Maclean should be slain at Groinart. The first of these orders, he trangressed involuntarily, being driven by a storm on the coast on a Thursday, and he drank

of the water of the well before he had inquired the name of the place.

THE death of Maclean had thrown so much power into the hands of Macdonald, that it excited anew the jealousy and ambition of the Earl of Argyle, who got a grant from the crown, as was common in those days, not only of the disputed lands in Isla, but of the greatest part of Cantyre and Mull; this produced new wars, which lasted many years between the Campbells and the Macdonalds, in which the former at length prevailed, and by the influence of Argyle, young Macdonald was confined in the castle of Edinburgh, where he remained in custody for a considerable time, but at last escaped by the assistance of his cousin Mac Renald, who fled with him into Spain; in the mean time, the lands in dispute were annexed to the vast domains of the house of Inverary, and continue so to this day.

THE book from whence the materials of this story are taken, contains an account of a variety of conflicts which agitated the different highland clans, all of which place in a very strong light the character of those barbarous times, as well as the fierce spirit of the chiefs.

THE most trifling cause gave rise to a quarrel, of which the hopes of plunder were the chief incentives. They conducted their plundering expeditions with the utmost policy, and reduced the whole art of theft into a regular system, which, from habit, had lost all the appearance of criminality; they considered

it as their vocation, and when they formed a party for an expedition against their neighbour's property, they and their friends prayed as earnestly to Heaven for their success, as if they were upon the point of engaging in the most laudable design. Mr. Pennant says, that the constant petition at grace of the old highland chieftains, was delivered with great fervour in these terms: "*Lord! turn the world upside down, that chieftains may make bread out of it:* the meaning of which was, that the world might become, for their benefit, a scene of rapine and confusion.

THE great object of plunder was cattle, and this gave rise to many ingenious methods of securing them. When they were stolen, they had wonderful sagacity in tracing them. When a *creach*, or great expedition, had been made against distant herds, the owners, as soon as they discovered their loss, rose in arms, and with all their friends, made an instant pursuit, tracing the cattle by their track for scores of miles. Their nicety in distinguishing the track of their cattle from those that were only casually wandering, was amazingly sagacious. They would pursue them through the territories of the different clans, with the certainty of hounds following their game; and as soon as they arrived on the estate where the track was lost, they immediately attacked the proprietor, and obliged him to recover it from his lands forwards, or make good the loss they had sustained.*

THESE times no longer exist; the abolition of feudal jurisdiction, and the extension of the common privileges of law have

* Pennant's Tour, Part I.

deprived the chiefs of a great part of their power, and it is hoped that civilization will soon follow.

JULY 20th. The morning being fine, and the sea tolerably calm, the boat came over from Gometra to convey us to Staffa. On going on board, we witnessed another proof of Mrs. Maclean's goodness, for we found wine for ourselves, and spirits for the boatmen, with a plentiful supply of provisions for us all. We left Mull about eleven o'clock, and it being perfectly calm, our rowers were obliged to exercise their oars, and soon brought us through the sound of Gometra, or the narrow passage between Gometra and Ulva, two islands lying in the mouth of *Loch-na-gall*, the latter of which is of considerable size. This channel is so shallow, that a boat can only get through it at high water. As soon as we had passed this sound, we saw Staffa* about ten miles distant, presenting nothing particularly striking in its appearance, seeming only at this distance an abrupt rock, flat at the top, but whose sides descend perpendicularly into the ocean. The day continued very fine, but as a light breeze had sprung up, the sail was hoisted, and we steered for the island. When we were at the distance of about three miles, we heard what we supposed to be the report of guns, which were repeated at regular intervals, perhaps every half minute; the sound appeared to come from no great distance, and as we supposed it to proceed

* The name *Staffa* appears to be Norwegian, being derived from Staff, a prop or support, or figuratively a column; a name very properly applied to this island. —PENNANT.

from some vessels either firing guns of distress, or engaged with each other, we were anxious to reach the island, that we might have a view of them: but when we turned the northern point, we perceived the cause of these sounds. In the rock on the north side of Staffa, was a cavity resembling an immense mortar, and though there was not much wind, yet the waves, which had been raised into mountains by the violence of the preceding tempest, were still very high, and broke with violence against the island. Whenever a wave came against this part of the rock, by its irresistible force it condensed the air in the cavity, and more than half filled it with water; but when the force of the wave was exhausted, and its immense pressure removed, the spring of the condensed air forced out the water in the form of a fine white froth, like smoke, accompanied with a report similar to the firing of cannon.

As we proceeded along the western coast of the island, the basaltic pillars were very evident, though in many places irregular, and reaching only half way down the rock, which, together with the pillars, was of a dark colour inclining to black. In other places they proceeded from the water upwards, and were abruptly terminated or broken. As we turned the southern point, they became vastly more regular, and the view of this side of the island was grand beyond conception: it appeared like the end of an immense cathedral, whose massy roof was supported by stupendous pillars, formed with all the regularity of art: at the bottom appeared the ends of broken pillars standing

Staffa.

upright, and forming an extensive causeway. On the top of the island, above these ranges of columns, the green turf was often interrupted by lesser pillars, inclined in almost every direction, but generally dipping towards the west, forming an angle of about 30° with the horizon. The large pillars were of a dark purple hue inclining to black, but in many places richly coloured with light green, yellow, and orange. This rich variety of colour, which added greatly to the beauty of the magnificent scene, was produced by different species of lichen growing upon the stone. The pillars stand upon a base of gravelly lava, of a light brown colour, without any regularity in its form; this bed slopes gradually from the bases of the columns into the sea.

Proceeding still farther along the same side of the island, we had a view of Fingal's cave, one of the most magnificent sights the eye ever beheld. It appears like the inside of a cathedral of immense size, but superior to any work of art in grandeur and sublimity, and equal to any in regularity.

Regularity is the only part in which Art pretends to excel Nature, but here Nature has shown, that when she pleases, she can set man at nought even in this respect, and make him sensible of his own littleness. Her works are in general distinguished by a grand sublimity, in which she disdains the similar position of parts, called by mankind regularity, but which, in fact may be another name for narrowness of conception, and poverty of idea; but here, in a playful mood, she has produced a

regular piece of workmanship, and on a scale so immense as to make all the temples built by the hand of man, hide their diminished heads.

On the east side of the cave is a magnificent causeway, formed by the bases or lower parts of pillars of immense magnitude, the upper parts having been broken off, probably by the fury of the ocean.

Still farther to the east is the little island Booshala, or *Bhuachaille*,* separated from Staffa by a channel not twenty yards wide, through which a foaming surf was continually rushing. This little island, which is of the form of an irregular pyramid, is entirely composed of basaltic pillars, inclined in every direction, but generally pointing towards the top of the cone, and resembling very much billets of wood placed in order to be charred; many of them are, however, horizontal, and some are bent into arches of circles.

To the west of the great cave is a smaller cavern, called Corvorant's cave, which is an excavation in the current of lava that forms the base of the pillars.

The general view here given of the south side of Staffa, and the little island Booshala, which is indeed nothing but a part of

* *Bhuachaille* signifies the herdsman, a name perhaps given by the Hebridians to this small island, from its standing near Staffa, as a herdsman does to his herd.

Bending Pillars in Staffa.

Staffa, was taken in the boat, which our boatmen with some difficulty kept nearly stationary, till my friend had executed his drawing. When he had finished, we rowed still farther eastward to a small bay, the only place where a landing can be effected, and which cannot here be accomplished unless the sea be tolerably calm, for there is such a heavy surf dashing against the rocks, that at other times such an attempt would be attended with extreme danger.

From the place where we landed, we had a nearer and more accurate view of the island Booshala, with some bending pillars in the side of Staffa. The top of the island appeared covered with imperfect pillars, and at the bottom of the rock where we stood was an immense heap of the lower parts of columns, inclined in different directions, forming a rude stair, up which we scrambled to the top of the island. This view from the landing place is very accurately represented in the annexed plate.

Near the middle of the island we found two wretched huts, built with fragments of basaltic pillars and rude pieces of lava; one of these served as the habitation of a herd and his family, who take care of the cattle that feed on the island; the other is used as a barn and cow-house. Upon the side of a hillock near the hut, we sat down and partook of the provisions with which the attentive Mrs. Maclean had supplied us, and the herd's wife presented us with some milk in a large wooden bowl, so heavy that we could scarcely lift it to our mouths: they had no smaller

vessels, nor spoons. Indeed their manner of life is extremely simple, their food consisting chiefly of milk and potatoes, with now and then a little fish. There being no wood in the island, the only fuel used by these poor people is the sods or earth, which they carefully dry, and in which the only combustible parts are the fibrous roots of grass.

THIS family resided here both winter and summer for three years, but in winter their situation was frequently very unpleasant; for during a storm, the waves beat so violently against the island, that the very house was shaken, though situated in the middle of it: indeed, the concussion was often so great, that the pot which hung over the fire partook of it, and was made to vibrate. This so much alarmed the poor inhabitants one very stormy winter, that they determined to leave the island the first favourable opportunity, for they believed that nothing but an evil spirit could have rocked it in that manner.* Since that time, they have resided here only during the summer season; and even at this time of the year, their situation is far from enviable, for it is impossible to keep a boat in the bay on account of the

* This circumstance was related to us by the herd, through the medium of one of our boatmen, who could speak a little English, and who therefore acted as our interpreter; but it seemed so fabulous, that we regarded it merely as an instance of the love of telling what will astonish. I find, however, in St. Fond's Tour, published after this was written, a confirmation of it. Some of his companions having been obliged by storms to spend two nights on Staffa, in the miserable hut I have described, declared, on their return to Torloisk, that "the sea broke upon the island with such impetuosity, and rushed into the caves which penetrated its interior with such noise, that the hut shook to its foundation, and they could get no sleep."

surf, and should sickness or death happen to any of the family, their situation would be very distressing.

THERE is a small spring of water, or rather a bason, which retains the falling rain, and was not this climate so very wet, this necessary fluid would fail them; a very few warm days would dry up their scanty supply.

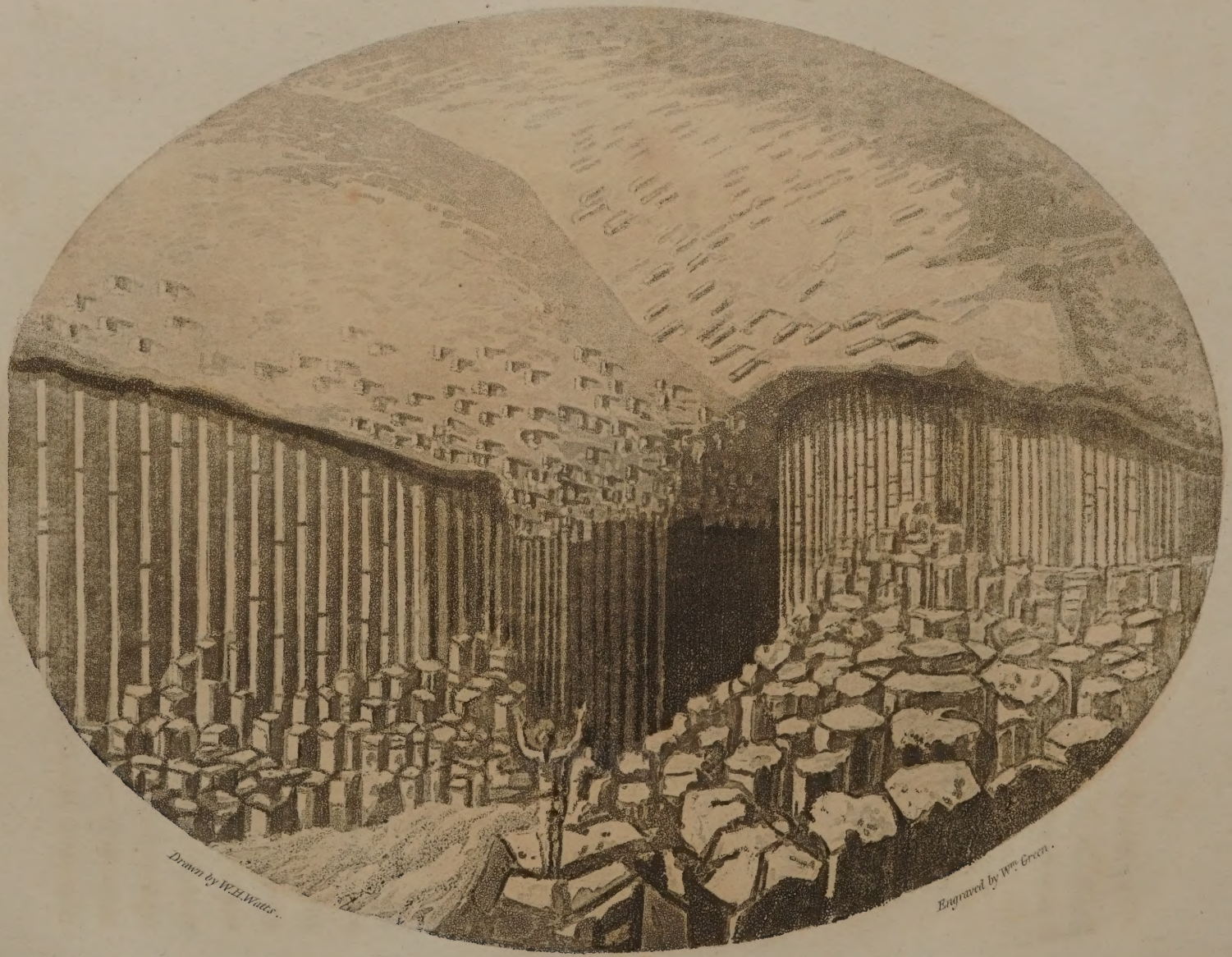
OUR repast being finished, we scrambled down the rocks, and went along the great causeway, composed, as has been already noticed, of the lower parts of very large pillars, to take a nearer view of the magnificent cave of Fingal. The basaltic columns increase in magnitude as we approach the cave, where they are the largest both in diameter and altitude, that are to be found in the island. They are generally hexagonal, though many of them are found with five sides, and some few only with four. The side of one of the hexagonal pillars, forming the great causeway near the cave, measures, on an average, about two feet; but the dimensions of the side of the hexagon, in the greater number of pillars in the island, may be about fifteen inches: there were many, however, which did not measure above nine inches, and in the island Booshala, the hexagonal sides of the pillars did not, on an average, exceed four inches.

IF we were to take a honeycomb, and fill the cells with plaster of paris, tinged with plumbago, and if, after this had become solid, we should melt out the waxen partitions by exposing it to

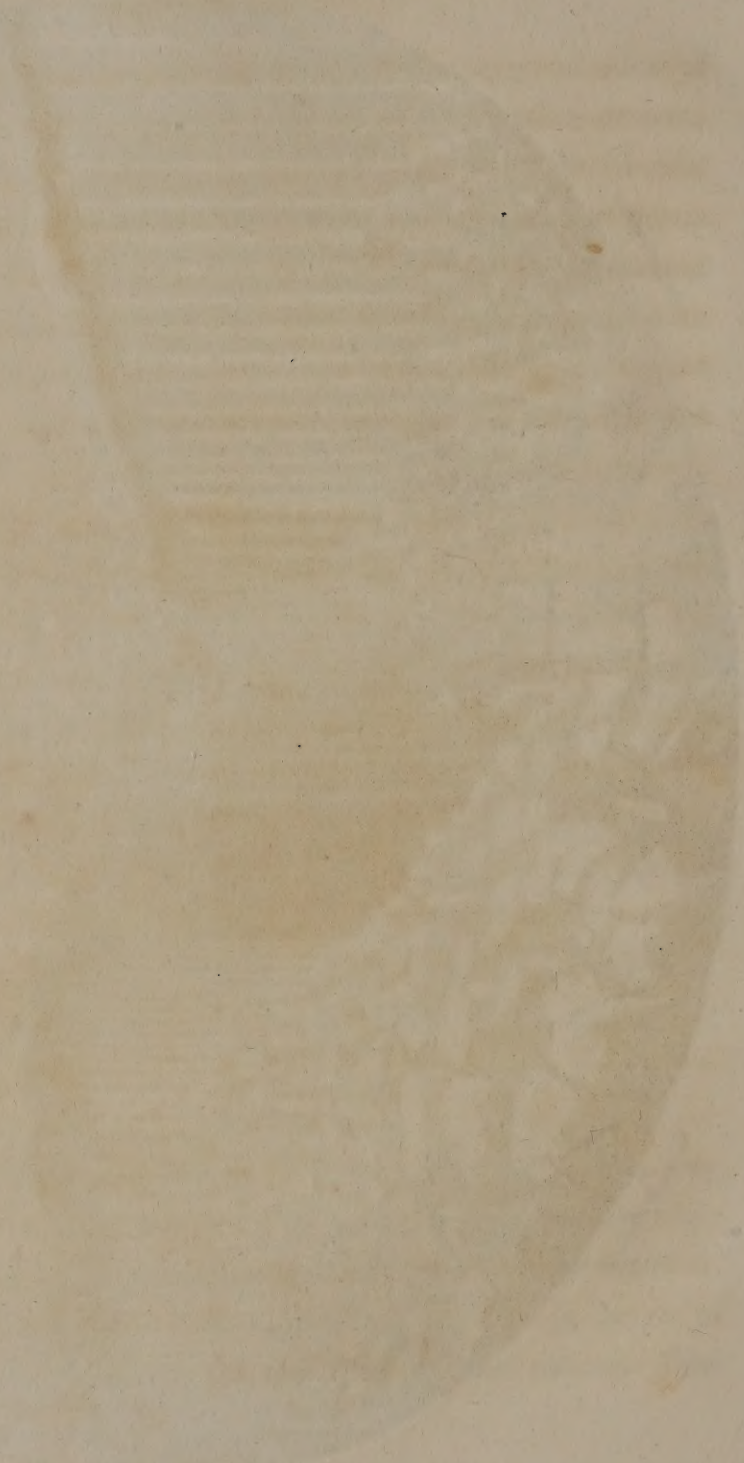
heat, the pillars which remained would give a very good idea of this causeway. Between these pillars is often found a cement, generally of a beautiful white colour, interspersed with rhomboidal and prismatic crystals, which are sometimes tinged with green. This substance is, in general, calcareous spar (crystalized carbonat of lime). In some instances, however, the space is filled up with infiltrations of beautiful white zeolite. In the very midst of the basaltic pillars, when broken, are to be found pieces of radiated zeolite.

THE cave viewed from this causeway is certainly one ofthe most magnificent objects the eye can behold. The sides are composed of ranges of basaltic pillars, diminishing to the eye in regular perspective, and supporting a massy roof, which consists of the tops of columns that have probably been washed away by the fury of the ocean. The fragments of pillars which compose this roof, are cemented by a calcareous matter similar to that above described, but of a light yellow colour, which when contrasted with the dark purple hexagons formed by the ends of the pillars, has a very fine effect, the whole resembling mosaic work.

THE bottom of the cave is filled with the sea, and in very calm weather a small boat can go up to the farther extremity: but if this should be attempted when the waves are agitated, though only in a small degree, the boat would be in danger of being dashed to pieces against the sides of the cavern. The



Fingal's Cave.



only way of entering it at such times, is by a causeway, not more than two feet broad, on the eastern side, formed of the bases of broken pillars, but which is very slippery, being constantly wet by the spray. It therefore requires great steadiness and caution to penetrate to the end of this celebrated cave, for the least slip or false step would precipitate the adventurer into the waves raging at his feet. The entrance of the cave being very wide, affords sufficient light to see every part of it distinctly. Upon one of the broken pillars, a corvorant had built her nest, and expressed by her hissing the displeasure she felt at her solitary retirement being molested.*

I SHALL give the dimensions of the cave from Sir Joseph Banks, who had it very accurately measured by some of his attendants.

	FEET.	INCHES.
Length of the cave from the rock without, -	237	6
——————— from the pitch of the arch,	250	0
Breadth of ditto at the mouth, - - - - -	53	7
——————— at the farther end, - - -	20	0
Height of the arch at the mouth, - - - -	117	6
——————— at the end, - - - - -	70	0
Depth of water at the mouth, - - - - -	18	0
——————— at the farther end, - - - -	9	0

* It is only the mouth or entrance of the cave that is represented in the view here given, but it is an excellent and very accurate resemblance.

On viewing this magnificent resemblance of art, we can scarcely wonder that in rude times it should have been deemed artificial; but as it seemed too massy and arduous a task to be performed by weak mortals like ourselves, the traditions of a fanciful people have attributed it to a race of giants, who, they say, built this palace for their celebrated chief, Fion-mac-Cool, or Fingal, the father of Ossian. This idea prevails among the vulgar even at this day. Our interpreter, on hearing me express my admiration of this wonder of nature, told me that it was generally considered as the work of Fion-mac-Cool and his followers, but that, for his part, he thought it had been built by St. Columba!

Few are the travellers of taste who have visited this charming scene, but those few have expressed their admiration in the most glowing colours. Dr. Uno Van Troil, the learned bishop of Linckœping, who visited Staffa along with Sir Joseph Banks, in his letters on Iceland, gives the following animated account of this cave.

"How magnificent are the remains we have of the porticos of the ancients! and with what admiration do we behold the colonnades which adorn the principal buildings of our times! and yet every one who compares them with Fingal's cave, formed by Nature in the isle of Staffa, must readily acknowledge that this piece of Nature's architecture, far surpasses every thing

that invention, luxury, and taste, ever produced among the Greeks."*

The island of Staffa is about three-quarters of a mile in length, and half a mile in breadth; and is composed almost entirely of basaltes and lava. The greater part of the circumference of the island presents very fine columns on the side next the sea; the rest is a rude mass of basalt, with few appearances of regular pillars. The tops of the basaltic pillars are covered with rocks of lava, most of it in a crumbling state, but a considerable quantity of it hard, and of the honeycomb kind, of a dark colour, having many of the cells filled with bubbles of zeolite about the size of a pea. In some places this honeycomb lava takes a regular columnar form like basaltes. In the little bay where we landed, were great numbers of black pebbles, consisting of fragments of basaltic pillars which had been rounded and polished by the surf; among these were some granite pebbles, which must have been brought by the waves

* Letters on Iceland by Uno Von Troil, D.D. Letter xxii. p. 273, of the English translation. Faujas de St. Fond, who came from France on purpose to see Staffa, and whose expectations were raised to the highest pitch, says, "I have seen many ancient volcanos, and have given descriptions of several superb basaltic causeways, and delightful caverns in the midst of lavas: but I have never found any thing which comes near this, either for the admirable regularity of the columns, the height of the arch, the situation, the form, the elegance of this production of nature, or its resemblance to the master-pieces of art; though this has had no share in its construction. It is therefore not at all surprizing that tradition should have made it the abode of a hero."—Travels through England and Scotland, vol. ii.

from a considerable distance, there being no granite rocks in Staffa, on the neighbouring coast of Mull.*

* The reader, I trust, will not be displeased with the following list of mineralogical productions of the isle of Staffa, by Faujas de St. Fond.

MINERALOGY OF THE ISLE OF STAFFA.

1. Triangular basaltic prisms, which are here, as in other places, very rare.
2. Quadrangular, equally rare.
3. Pentagonal. } These are the most common forms.
4. Hexagonal. }
5. Heptagonal, of which a few are found here.
6. Octagonal, of a very large size, sometimes four feet in diameter, exhibiting in their truncatures the elements of other smaller prisms.
7. Articulated prisms, that is, whose sections are concave on one side, and convex on the other.
8. Prisms cut through without any articulations; some of them have eight, ten, and even twelve sections.
9. Prisms, which seem to have been cast at one time, in one piece; of these, some are twelve, fifteen, twenty, or even forty feet high.
10. Prisms curved in the arch of a circle.
11. Black gravelly compact lava, which easily separates into irregular pieces.
12. Black porous lava.
13. White radiated zeolites incrusted with basaltic lava much softer, in round pieces, oval, or irregular, and in diverging points. There are sometimes seen on the exterior part of these oval pieces, projecting crystals of cubical zeolites.
14. White radiated calcedinous zeolites. I obtained from one of the beds of muddy lava, on which the greater part of the prismatic lavas of Staffa repose, several spherical nuclei of zeolites, in diverging rays, united to the number of three or four in one group. I found some of these small balls about the size of a gall-nut, the one half of which was penetrated by a calcedinous, milky juice, and the other by a quartoze juice, extremely crystaline, and transparent as the purest rock crystal.
15. Cubical white zeolites. There were some superb pieces of cubical zeolites in Staffa; but in our visit to that isle, we took away all that were most interesting.
16. Transparent cubic zeolites, of a greenish cast. I found this specimen in the interior of the cave of Fingal, in a crevice formed by the separation of two

THE soil on the top of the island is very shallow, and frequently interrupted by pillars of basaltes, which rise just above the surface; but the grass, notwithstanding this, is very good. A great quantity of the *Poteutilla anserina* grows here.

THIS island, though it may be regarded as one of the greatest curiosities in the world, has, till lately, been scarcely known. It is just mentioned by Buchannan by name, and though the native Hebridians considered the cave as one of the seats or palaces of their hero Fingal, it was never regarded by any intelligent traveller. A Mr. LEACH seems to have been among the first who noticed it; he was a native of Ireland, and being on a visit at Drimnen, in Morven, in one of his fishing excursions he happened to go near it: being struck with the singularity of its appearance, he landed upon it, and examined it particularly. This was in the year 1772.

A FEW days afterwards, Sir JOSEPH BANKS, in his way to

prisms. It is therefore evident, that this small group of cubical crystals, had been formed in that fissure, in a very slow and imperceptible manner, by the juxtaposition of zeolitic particles, held in solution by the aqueous fluid. The greenish colour of these zeolites is owing to the decomposition of the iron contained in the basaltes.

17. White semi-transparent zeolites, in octagonal crystals.

18. White semi transparent zeolites, and crystals of thirty facets.

19. Granite of a red ground, and the same texture with that of the ancient Egyptian granite. This granite is found in rounded stones among the lavas, thrown by the sea upon that part of the island where the currents have formed the most considerable beach, and which must have been transported hither from a distance by currents, Staffa and the neighbouring islands being volcanic. Travels through England and Scotland, vol. ii.

Iceland, cast anchor in the sound of Mull, opposite to Drimnen, and was immediately invited to land by Mr. MACLEAN, who entertained him and his party with great hospitality. Here Mr. LEACH related to Sir Joseph, what he had seen, which excited his curiosity so strongly, that he could not resist the offer made by this gentleman, to accompany him to Staffa.

THE account of this island drawn up by this celebrated naturalist, was by him communicated to Mr. PENNANT, who published it in his Tour to the Hebrides; and this was the first description of this island ever presented to the public.

THE basaltic pillars of Staffa are all magnetic, the lower parts possessing a north, and the upper parts a south polarity.

MANY of my readers will no doubt be anxious to be informed, how these regular collections of pillars have been produced; and I wish it was in my power to present them with any thing better than what may be called a plausible hypothesis. Staffa has not been long known to the learned, but a magnificent collection of basaltic pillars, has been long since noticed on the north-east coast of Ireland, called the Giant's Causeway, which forms a kind of mole projecting into the sea. This, and some other appearances of the same kind, in different parts of the world, have for a considerable time engaged the attention of philosophers, and both they and the vulgar have amused themselves with theories concerning their formation.

THE opinions of the native Irish concerning the Giant's Causeway, were by no means unnatural. They saw a regular mole going into the sea, formed of hexagonal pillars, which had every appearance of art; the only obstacle which they perceived, was the insufficiency of human strength for a work of such magnitude: this difficulty, however, was soon overcome, and the celebrated hero, FION-MAC-COOL, the Fingal of Scotland, became the giant, under whose forming and directing hand, this singular structure was erected. As similar pillars were known to exist on the west coast of Scotland, particularly on part of the coast of Mull, it was not unnatural to think, as they knew little of latitude and longitude, that this mole, which loses itself in the sea, was once continued across the channel, connecting the Irish and British coasts together, and that, by means of it, Fingal and his attendants had ready access from one island to the other.

THIS theory, which is perfectly consonant to the notions of those with whom it originated, is, to the full, as rational as many which followed it. Dr. POCOCKE, a well-known traveller, and a gentleman of great industry, visited the Giant's Causeway, and gave a very good description of it. But not content with a plain history of the matters of fact, he ventured to propose a theory of its formation, which is by no means consistent with the phenomena, and, as is observed by Dr. HAMILTON, appears to be little else than the doctrine of the atoms of Epicurus in a modern dress.

He conceives, that basaltes might once have been suspended in a watery medium, either in solution, or as a kind of mud; that at certain times, accidental fits of precipitation took place, in such a manner, as to form a range of short cylinders, whose upper ends should be chiefly convex; that as these joints became somewhat solid, a second fit of precipitation took place, forming a second range of incumbent joints, which must generally be concave, adapted to the convexity of the lower order, and thus, by successive fits of precipitation, he supposes that a set of erect cylinders might be generated in contact with each other. Now a set of cylinders can touch only in right lines, and must therefore leave empty spaces between them; but the pillars being yet soft, and yielding to the increasing pressure from above, should, he supposes, dilate and spread themselves, so as to fill up the vacuities; and thus, he supposes, the polygonal jointed pillars of the Giant's Causeway, to have been formed.*

To waste any time in the refutation of this theory, would be an insult to the understanding of my readers. I shall only request them to recollect, that in Staffa are both horizontal and curved pillars, the formation of which cannot be explained on this supposition.

When mineralogy became better known, and more accurate observations had been made, basalt was supposed to be a volcanic

* See Hamilton's Letters concerning the Northern Coast of the County of Antrim, &c.

production; it was frequently accompanied by volcanic fossils, such as zeolite, obsidian, lava, pumice-stone, &c.; and when chemistry was applied to mineralogy, the analogy between basaltes, which was supposed to be of volcanic origin, and of lava, which was known to be so, confirmed this idea.

THE following is a comparative view of Bergman's analysis of these two substances:

100 parts of *basaltes* contain	100 parts of *lava* contain
50 of siliceous earth	49 of siliceous earth
15 of argillaceous earth	35 of argillaceous earth
8 of calcareous earth	4 of calcareous earth
2 of magnesia	12 of iron
25 of iron	
100	100

This analysis of basaltes and lava from different places, shows them to be as much the same substance, as the analysis of any two specimens of a mineral brought from different places, would do. The analysis of basaltes and lava from the same place, would probably agree still more exactly. I regret that my time will not at present permit me to analyze the basaltes of Staffa, and the lava which lies over it. I shall, however, take the first opportunity to do this.

FROM what has been said, and from other facts which may be found related in an elaborate and excellent work, *Sur les Volcans Eteint*, by Faujas de St. Fond, as well as Hamilton's

ingenious letters concerning the coast of Antrim, there can be little reason to doubt the volcanic origin of basaltes, but in what manner they could assume such regularity of form and arrangement, seems very much to have puzzled philosophers.

M. Desmarest, an eminent French mineralogist, and one of the first, I believe, who considered basaltes as a volcanic production, gave it as his opinion, that basaltes were produced by currents of volcanic lava. From all the circumstances which he had observed in an extensive tour, he concluded that basaltic columns were formed by the gradual refrigeration of a mass of fluid lava, during its slow and retarded progress over the subjacent soil. In the year 1776, Ferber declared, that from every examination of volcanic productions, in which he had been engaged, he had been led to the same conclusion. Mr. Raspe in the same year, gave it as his opinion, that prismatic basaltes should be looked upon as currents of lava, cooled in sea-water, or cooled of themselves under ground. Buffon was likewise of opinion, that when a current of lava "arrived at the margin of the sea, the water by its immensity, by the resistance of its cold, and by its power of arresting and extinguishing fire, soon consolidates the torrent of burning matter, which can now proceed no farther, but rises up, accumulates new strata, and forms a perpendicular wall."

It may indeed be observed, that as the Giant's Causeway, and many other collections of basaltes are found near the sea,

it has been the opinion of many philosophers, besides those above mentioned, that they have been produced by torrents of lava suddenly congealing from the contact of water, and which, from that circumstance, have taken on the prismatic form. But a moment's reflection ought to satisfy us, that the furious encounter of a river of liquid fire with the water of the ocean, so far from being suited to form the elegant and neat arrangements of basaltic pillars, such as those of Staffa and the Giant's Causeway, could only produce irregularity and confusion. Besides, many collections of basaltic pillars have been discovered at a great distance from the sea, and where there are no appearances which indicate that the sea has ever been near these parts. See St. Fond's *Mineralogie des Volcans.*

Mr. HAMILTON is of opinion, that crystals of lava have been formed within the bowels of the earth, where it has been suffered to cool very gradually. "There seems," he observes, "but one operation in nature, which affords any rational principle of analogy, by which we can attempt to explain the formation of basaltic pillars. It is certain that the particles of most bodies, when removed from each other to a proper distance, and suffered to approach gradually, assume a peculiar form of arrangement, as if the parts of each species of matter did, independent of their general properties of cohesion and gravity, possess also private laws and affinities tending to produce these specific forms. It does not appear to be a matter of importance by what medium the particles are disunited, provided only that

a sufficient separation and a gradual approximation be allowed to take place.

THUS, whether bodies are dissolved by fire, or by a watery medium, the phenomena of crystallization are equally observable, when proper art has been applied to render its effects visible; and since basaltes and its attendant fossils bear strong marks of the effects of fire, it does not seem unlikely that its pillars may have been formed by a process exactly analogous to what is commonly denominated crystallization by fusion."*

THOUGH I think that every person who has examined with attention collections of basaltic pillars, will coincide in the opinion that they have been formed by lava, or a matter similar to it, in fusion in the bowels of the earth, and left to cool slowly; yet there are some reasons which would lead to a suspicion, that they have not been formed by the usual mode of crystallization: for it may be observed, that crystals are very seldom, if ever, found in any considerable quantity running in the same direction, but either inclining from one another, or, what is more common, placed towards one another in several sloping directions. This must have been observed by every one who has examined with the slightest attention, druses or collections of crystals. They are also generally separated from each other when they are regular: the nature of crystallization requires this, for the several particles of which the crystals are composed, must have

* Letters concerning the coast of Antrim.

the liberty of following that power which affects their regular disposition."*

The basaltic columns are, however, on the contrary, parallel to each other, and so close together, that the point of a knife can hardly be introduced between them: besides, most of the pillars are divided into several parts or joints, which seem to be placed upon each other, fitting very exactly: this is the case with many of the basaltic prisms of Staffa, and still more so with those of the Giant's Causeway; and though we do see crystals formed one above another in different layers, when the solvent has visibly diminished at different times; yet the upper crystals never fit so exactly to the lower ones, as to produce connected prisms of the same length and depth as all the strata connected together, but, on the contrary, each stratum, taken separately, forms its own crystals.

It may besides be observed, that the fracture of basalt does not show a plane smooth surface under the microscope, but appears like grains of different magnitude, or resembles fine rays running in different directions. Basalt is likewise often found full of air-holes, and these holes, when large, are frequently filled with crystals of zeolite; circumstances which do not correspond with the laws of crystallization.

The sides of each basaltic column are unequal among them-

* Bergman.

selves, so that we very seldom find either a pentagonal or hexagonal prism with equal sides; but the contiguous sides of adjoining pillars are always of equal dimensions, so as nearly to touch and perfectly to correspond in all their parts: and though the angles be of various magnitudes, yet the sum of the contiguous angles of adjoining pillars always makes up four right angles, so that no void spaces are left among the basaltes, as is the case in crystals, and on this account the surface of the causeway exhibits to view a regular and compact pavement of polygon stones.

THESE observations would lead us to suppose, that the mass of which the pillars are composed, has been once fluid, or in a state of fusion, and that as it has cooled, it has contracted or split into several parts, as we know is the case with earthy substances containing a considerable quantity of clay.

BASALTES in this, as well as in the chemical analysis, resembles very exactly the nodules of argillaceous iron stone, which are found in various parts of the world, and especially about Kilbride, Haddington, Dunbar, and various parts of Scotland. This stone is particularly described by the late ingenious Dr. Hutton, in the first volume of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a print of it given, illustrating his theory of the earth.*

* There is likewsse a description and engraving of this stone given in the Travels of Faujas de St. Fond, Vol. I. p. 194. English Translation.

THE form of these stones is circular, and resembles two tea-saucers with their edges joined together; the size varies from three inches to a foot diameter. When divided by a section through the circular edge, the internal part is full of prismatic septaria, the interstices being sometimes empty, but at other times filled with crystals of quartz, calcareous spars or pyrites, and resembles the top of a basaltic causeway. If instead of making a section through the circular edge, the flat edges of one of these stones be broken off with a hammer, so as to leave only the thickest part in the middle, basaltic pillars are frequently discovered. In the mineralogical collection of Anderson's Institution, is a beautiful Staffa in miniature found in one of these stones.

THERE can, I think, be no doubt that these stones have been once in fusion, that the outside being exposed to the air, or surrounded by some other cold medium, has cooled quickly: but the internal parts cooling more slowly, have contracted and left little spaces, which in many instances have been filled up by crystals of matter shooting from the parts not yet become solid. Indeed, from the appearance of these stones, and their exactly agreeing with lava and basaltes in their analysis, it seems highly probable that they have been balls of liquid lava thrown into the air from volcanos, and falling either into the sea, or upon the soft parts of the earth, have sunk into it, and become flattened by the fall.

In a similar way it is reasonable to suppose, that basaltic pillars have been formed. A mass of lava in the interior parts of the earth cooling gradually, contracts and forms these pillars; they seem to have been produced exactly in the same way as prisms of starch, to which they bear a very strong resemblance. As the water evaporates or escapes, the prisms of starch are formed by the contraction of the mass, and as the caloric escapes from a mass of fluid lava, prisms of basaltes are produced.

It may be objected, that as lava frequently resembles glass, or appears to have undergone vitrification, and may even be converted into glass, of which bottles can be made by mere fusion, these crystals or prisms, instead of being opake, should have a vitreous appearance. In answer to this, it may be observed, that the basaltes of Staffa in a moderate heat, fuses into a fine black glass of great tenacity. I have effected this fusion in a small crucible, by the furnace of a laboratory; and besides, the purest flint glass when suffered to cool very slowly, forms an opake mass resembling a stone. It does not, indeed, contract or split, probably from having no clay in its composition; but I have found in some of these opake pieces of glass very beautiful crystals. Mr. Keir has described similar crystals in the LXVI. volume of the Philosophical Transactions.

Sir James Hall, along with Dr. Hope of Edinburgh, and Dr. Kennedy, has lately made some experiments that tend strongly to confirm this idea, an account of which will in all

probability be shortly given to the public. They took whinstone, which is a coarse grained basaltes, and fused it in a crucible by means of heat. It formed a very black glass, which when cooled pretty quickly, resembled lava, but when allowed to cool very slowly, it became whinstone again. Basaltes likewise afforded a similar glass, which when cooled pretty quickly, had the appearance of lava, but when allowed to cool very slowly, was converted into whinstone.

This opinion is farther strengthened by the circumstance of volcanic mountains abounding with basaltes. Mr. Houel observes, that all along the eastern side of Mount Etna, the soil is broken, but filled with beautiful varieties of basaltes: indeed, according to this author, there is no volcano in Europe so rich as Etna in basaltes, nor where so many curious figures of it are to be seen.

Sir William Hamilton has mentioned basaltes which have been thrown up during an eruption of Mount Vesuvius; and Faliasi has given a view of an extinguished volcano, with pillars in the crater.*

From all these considerations, we may I think conclude, that in most volcanic countries, a quantity of pyrites very rich in iron, along with argillaceous and other earths, has been fused into a thin liquid mass by the fire of a volcano. On an eruption

* See Sullivan's Excellent View of Nature, vol. ii.

taking place, that part of the lava or liquid matter, which is thrown out by the expansive force of the vapours, or fire, and brought into contact with the air, cools too suddenly to admit of any regular form, but that which remains quiet within the bowels of the mountain will cool very slowly, and be left without interruption to form crystals, or rather, by the gradual diminution of its bulk, to split into regular pillars, like starch when it is drying.

That the island of Staffa is a small relic of such a subterraneous collection of pillars, which have been laid bare by the violence of the sea, or perhaps by some of the adjacent parts sinking or giving way, seems very likely from the form of the island exhibited in the general view, where it appears to have sloped gradually on each side to the edge of the water, but these sides have been abruptly broken off, or washed away by the fury of the Atlantic continually beating against it. The pillars are not confined to the exterior surface of the island, which would have been the case, had they been formed of lava which had cooled by flowing into the sea; but as far as we can go into the cave, pillars are found, and the whole island most probably consists of them.

Though the weather was very fine when we first reached Staffa, yet we no sooner landed on that island, than it began to rain, and continued to do so the remainder of the day. When we had seen every thing worth notice, we went on board our boat, and set sail for Icolmkill with a fair wind, often casting

behind a look on this singular island, which we left with regret, and which is undoubtedly the greatest natural curiosity in Europe, if not in the world.

Icolmkill is between three and four leagues from Staffa. At a considerable distance we could discern the tower of the cathedral, which became every moment more distinct. We sailed between Icolmkill and a small island called the isle of Nuns; and as we approached the former, we saw a considerable number of kelp-makers at work on the shore; we landed in a small bay, opposite the only village in the island, and were conducted to a wretched hut, the only public house, which was to be our residence for the night, an idea that brought along with it no very agreeable sensations. After having refreshed ourselves, we walked out to inquire for the schoolmaster, who was to point out to us the different remains of antiquity with which this celebrated island abounds; but we were informed, that he was gone over to Mull to dig his peats; we, however, took a slight look at some of the dilapidated buildings, and on our return were met by the schoolmaster, whose name is Maclean, and who is the successor of the insular antiquarian mentioned by Dr. Johnson.

He conducted us to a small bay, a little to the west of the village, called the Bay of Martyrs, where all the illustrious dead were landed who were brought from distant parts to be interred; on no other occasion did people land in this bay, a

custom which is yet continued, for every corpse brought from the neighbouring coast of Mull for interment, is still landed here.

As the evening was far advanced, we appointed the schoolmaster to meet us at six o'clock the next morning. We went to bed in a most wretched apartment, with a floor of liquid mire, and open to the roof, except where two or three boards had been put over to prevent the rain from falling on the beds; but this was found to be a very inadequate preventative, for the night being very wet, the drops fell heavily on us. We had, however, plenty of companions in the room; for, besides the light infantry, &c. in the beds, we had several chickens, a tame lamb, two or three pigs, a dog, and some cats, which last went and came at pleasure through a hole in the roof, so that we could not expect a very comfortable night's rest. Nothwithstanding these obstacles to our repose, the fatigue of the day contributed, with a little whisky toddy, to "steep our senses in forgetfulness," and we enjoyed some hours of sleep, from which we were awoke by the attempts of a young cock to crow; it had mounted on my bed, and flapping its wings began to ape its seniors in a manner so ludicrous, that Mr. Watts was seized with such a fit of laughter, as effectually to put an end to our repose.*

* The farthest but to the left, in the view of the Nunnery, is the inn where we slept.

As this island is much visited by the curious, it is surprising that there should be no better place for the accommodation of strangers; it would not be unworthy the munificence of the noble proprietor, to render the resort of pilgrims to these precious relics of antiquity more commodious. As things are at present, it is best, if possible, to come to this place early in the day, in order to get away before night; but persons are sometimes detained here by the adverse elements for two or three days.

JULY 21. Our antiquary was punctual to the appointed time, and conducted us to the ruins; which point out, in striking contrast, the present state of this little island, and its condition in former times, when it was the luminary of the Caledonian regions, and diffused knowledge and civilization through the ignorant clans of barbarians for many miles. In this sequestered isle, learning flourished, and found a safe retreat, when western Europe lay buried in ignorance and barbarity; and from this seminary issued pious and learned monks, as well as laymen, who again revived learning, and propagated Christianity through many kingdoms of Europe.

I SHOULD imagine, that few could view these venerable remains of ancient piety, without feeling, in some degree, the sentiments so admirably expressed by the poet:

I do love these ancient ruins;
We never tread upon them, but we set

Our foot upon some reverend history.
And questionless, here, in these open courts,
Which now lie naked to the injuries
Of stormy weather, some men lie interr'd
Lov'd th' church so well, and gave so largely to 't,
They thought it should have canopy'd their bones
'Till doomsday. But all things have an end.
Churches and cities, that have diseases like to men,
Must have like death that we have.

PREVIOUS to describing these ruins, I shall give a short account of their foundation, which will, I hope, render the description more intelligible, as well as more interesting to the reader.

THIS island is between two and three miles in length, and about one in breadth, and is mentioned by writers under different names. BEDE calls it Hii, but the proper name is I, sounded like ee in English. I in Gaëlic, signifies an island, and this, by way of eminence, is called the Island. The monkish writers call it Jona, which, if derived from the Gaëlic, signifies the island of Waves,* a name very characteristic of it in times of storm. Others think that Jona is derived from a Hebrew word, signifying a dove, in allusion to the name of *St. Columba*, the founder of its fame.†

* Stat. Account of Kilfinichen and Kilvicuen. † Pennant's Tour.

THE name of Jona is now never used in the country; it is always called I, by the natives, though, among modern writers, it is generally known by the name of Icolmkill, or I-Columbkill, which signifies the isle of Columba of the cells: he being so called from his having founded so many churches and monasteries.

IT appears that the Druids possessed this isle before the introduction of Christianity: at a very small distance from the cathedral is a green hill, called to this day *Claodh nan Druineach*, or the burial place of the Druids. According to tradition, the first Christians banished the Druids, and took possession of their seat.

COLUMBA is represented by many of his biographers, as a wonderful, and, indeed, a supernatural character; and a number of strange tales concerning the miracles performed by him, are handed down to us.* It must, indeed, be owned, that after stripping his history of the ridiculous and fabulous legends with which it is disfigured and disgraced, enough remains to convince us, that he was a man of great political abilities, of an undaunted and firm disposition, and zeal in religious matters, capable of carrying him through any danger or fatigue.

* An account of the life, miracles, and writings of St. Columba, has lately been published by the Rev. Dr. Smith of Campbeltown.

THIS pious man, instigated by religious zeal, left Ireland, his native country, in the year 565, with the intention of preaching the gospel to the Picts. Some say, that having been maltreated in his native island, he left it with resentment, vowing never to make a settlement within sight of Ireland; a circumstance which derogates considerably from his sanctity, and is utterly inconsistent with the mild spirit and example of the founder of his religion.

HE set out from Ireland in a wicker boat covered with hides, called in Gaelic *curach*, and first landed in Oransay; but finding that the hated island which he had left, was visible from thence, he soon departed, but not till he had, as some say, founded a monastery, the ruins of which still exist. ORAN, an intimate friend and companion of his, gave his name to the island.

ON leaving this island, he came to I, where, on the first fine day, he ascended several hills, to ascertain whether he could see his native country; on each of these hills he erected a heap of stones, most of which remain. The last which he ascended is still called by the people of the island, *Carnan-chul-reh-Eirinn*, or the height of the back turned to Ireland.

HERE Columba soon began to be distinguished by the sanctity of his manners, and the miracles which he is reported to have wrought. He went to the court of the Pictish king, BRADEUS, probably with the design of converting him to christianity;

but was refused an audience by that prince, who even ordered the gates of his palace to be shut against him: but the Saint, by the power of his word, instantly caused them to fly open,* which miracle immediately converted the heathen king, who was so pleased with Columba, that he gave him the island of I, where he soon afterwards founded a cell of monks, or monastery, of which he was the head.

It would appear that these monks first differed from the church of Rome, both in the clerical tonsure, the observation of Easter, and several other ceremonies; and some have thought that Columba borrowed his regulations from an oriental monastic order.† However this may be, he here led a very exemplary life, and was greatly respected for the sanctity of his manners. At length, in the 77th year of his age, he died, in the arms of his disciples, and was interred in this island; though the Irish contend that his remains were removed to Down, and deposited between those of St. Patrick and Saint Bridget. This, however, is denied by the natives of I, who still point out his grave.

The religious establishments in this island, continued in the unmolested exercise of their duties for two centuries; but in the year 807 they were attacked by the Danes, who, with their usual barbarity, slew part of the monks, and forced the remainder,

* Pennant's Tour, and Smith's Life of St. Columba.

† See the Rise of Monastic States, by Twisden.

with Cellach, their abbot, to seek safety by flight. The monastery remained depopulated for several years, but on the retreat of the Danes received a new order, the Cluniacs, who continued there till the dissolution of monastic institutions, when the revenues were united to the see of Argyle, and on the abolition of episcopacy became the property of the Duke.

The first of the ruins we visited were those of the Nunnery, situated just above the hut where we slept. Here is a very large court, which has undoubtedly contained cloisters and proper habitations for the nuns: nothing however remains except the walls; but the nunnery church is quite entire, excepting a part of the roof, which has fallen in.

This church is fifty-eight feet long and twenty broad. A few years ago, the Duke's factor ordered a door, with a lock and key, to preserve this relick from destruction and profanation: but the lock has been forced, and the impious natives used this sanctuary to fold their cattle in during the night, tying the door fast with ropes. This fate was prophesied in the following distich, which is ascribed to St. Columba, but which likewise holds out the prospect of these ruins recovering their ancient splendour hereafter:

An I mo chridhe, I mo ghraidh
An aite guth mamaich bidh geum bà;
Ach mun tig an saoghal gu crich
Bithidh I mar a bha.

Drawn by W. Hawkes.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

Published as the Act directs.

IMITATION.

O sacred dome, and my belov'd abode!
Whose walls now echo to the praise of God;
The time shall come when lauding monks shall cease,
And lowing herds here occupy their place;
But better ages shall thereafter come,
And praise re-echo in this sacred dome.*

THE floor of the church is covered thick with cow-dung, excepting the eastern end, which Mr. Pennant caused to be cleared, and where the tomb of the last prioress is discernible, though considerably defaced. Her figure is carved in alto-relievo, on the face of a black marble stone; an angel is seen on each side, and above them is a comb and a small plate; these figures occupy only half the stone. On the other half is represented the Virgin Mary, with a mitre on her head, and the Infant in her arms, and above her are figures of the sun and moon; at her feet, between the two figures, is this address, supposed from the prioress: *Sancta Maria, ora pro me*; and round the stone, in old British characters, is the following inscription:

HIC jacet Domina Anna Donaldi Ferleti filia, quondam Prioressa de Jona, quæ obiit, añno m°. d°. xi^mo^. cujus animam Abrahamo commendamus.

* Smith's Life of St. Columba, p. 2.

THERE are some other monuments on the floor, but they are so effaced that scarcely any thing can be made out. The roof over the eastern end of this chapel remains entire, consisting of four arches meeting at the top: the intervals are filled up with thin stones placed edgeways, forming a very handsome vault or canopy. The architecture of the nunnery, which is in the Saxon style, has by no means been bad.

THIS nunnery was filled with canonesses of St. Augustine, and dedicated to St. Oran, the friend of Columba. Though these nuns were permitted to live in community for a considerable time after the Reformation, yet it was not till many years after Columba came to I, that he allowed them, or any other women, to settle in that island; for he was no friend to the fair sex; but, on the contrary, is said to have held them in such abhorrence, that he detested cattle on their account, and would not permit a cow to come near his sacred walls, because *'sfar am bi bo, bi' dh bean, 'sfar am bi bean, bi' dh mallacha,* "where there is a cow there must be a woman; and where there is a woman, there must be mischief."* Columba knew well the human heart; he knew that it was much easier to avoid than resist temptation; it was therefore politic in him to keep the fair tempters out of the way of the monks.

THE nuns lived in a small isle near I, which is still called the Isle of Nuns. Columba at last relented so far as to allow them

* Pennant's Tour.

this establishment in his island, where they wore a white gown, and above it a rocket of fine linen.

On the north side of the nunnery chapel, and very near it, stand the ruins of an edifice, said to have been the parish church.

Northwards from this building, we came to a causeway leading to the cathedral, called the Main Street, which is joined by two others, one coming from the bay where we landed, called the Royal Street, and another from the bay of martyrs, called Martyr Street, along which the illustrious dead used to be carried for interment.

On our left we passed an elegant cross, which we were told was called Maclean's Cross, being one of a great number, Mr. Pennant says three hundred and sixty, that were standing in this island at the Reformation, but which were soon after demolished by order of a provincial assembly held in this island. These crosses were probably erected in consequence of vows, or perhaps as monuments, with a vain hope, as is observed by the above-mentioned writer, of perpetuating the memory of the founders: but the fanaticism of the reformers could not endure these harmless monuments.

Proceeding towards the cathedral, we entered a court so overgrown with a monstrous sized butter-bur, that it was scarcely possible to move along. In this court are two crosses,

one called St. Martin's, which is very elegant, and formed of one piece of red granite, fourteen feet high; the other, called St. John's Cross, is much broken.

THE cathedral, which we now entered, has a very handsome choir, a tower in the middle, with two side aisles, the whole forming a cross. The tower, which is three stories high, is supported by four arches, adorned with figures in basso relievo: these arches are supported by pillars about ten feet high, and eight and a half in circumference; the capitals of these pillars are ornamented with several grotesque figures, among which is an angel with a pair of scales weighing souls, and the devil keeping down the scale in which the standard is, with his paw. The tower which we ascended by a narrow winding stair, is almost entire, and some of the roof-timbers are still remaining. Within these few years, a part of the east end of the transverse fell down.

THE length of the cathedral, from east to west, is thirty-eight yards, the breadth eight, and the length of the transept about twenty-four yards. The large east window has been a beautiful specimen of the Gothic style, but its light and elegant workmanship is much injured. One thing remarkable in this building is, that the windows are almost all of different forms, and in different styles of architecture: in the upper part of the tower is a circular window of peculiar construction, and so well contrived, as to admit plenty of light, yet exclude the wind and

Cathedral and Bishop's House at Lichfield.

rain; so that it probably served the purpose of a ventilator to the building as well as a window.

At the upper end of the chancel formerly stood a large table, or altar, of white marble: this, we were told by our guide, reached from one side of the chancel to the other, which is eight yards. If this be true, the marble slab must have been the largest ever seen in this country; but Mr. Pennant, on the authority of Sacheverel, who saw it when almost entire, says that the size of it was six feet by four, which is much more probable. This altar was brought from a quarry near the church of Strath, in the Isle of Skye.* Of this altar there are now no remains. The common opinion was, that a fragment of this stone was a defence against shipwrecks, fire, and miscarriages, and ensured to the possessor success in whatever he undertook: hence we need not be surprized that the inhabitants of this island should each secure a bit of it, or that they sent fragments of it to their friends in distant parts; it was likewise sold to strangers who visited the island, and who were anxious to possess a piece of so valuable a relick. Mr. Pennant says, that at the time when he visited the island, a very small portion only was left, and even that he contributed to diminish. In the Museum of Anderson's Institution, in Glasgow, is a good specimen of this altar, brought from Icolmkill by the founder: it is a granulated marble, of a pure white.

* Knox's Tour, p. 151.

VERY near the place where this altar stood, on the north side of the choir, is a tomb-stone of black marble, quite entire, on which is a very fine recumbent figure of the Abbot MACFINGONE, as large as life, in his sacred robes, with a crosier in one hand, and the other lifted up to his chin; elbowing two lions at one end, and spurning two at the other: this elegant tomb-stone is supported by four pedestals, about a foot high, and round the margin is this inscription:

+ HIC + JACET + JOHANNES MACFINGON ABBAS DE Ij + Qui Obiit Anno MD. Cujus Animo propicietur Altissimis. Amen.

JUST opposite this tomb, on the other side, is one of free-stone, executed in the same manner; this is the tombstone of Abbot Kenneth, but is much defaced.

ON the floor is the figure of an armed knight, rudely sculptured, with an animal sprawling at his feet.

ON the right of the cathedral, but contiguous to it, are the remains of the college; some of the cloisters are still visible, and the common hall is nearly entire, containing stone seats in niches for the disputants.

THE styles of architecture in this cathedral are different; the arches of one part being circular segments, which is the

College and Cathedral in Icolmkill.

Saxon or Roman, and the others pointed, or gothic: this, however, is the case with many other abbeys and cathedrals.

At a small distance from the church, was pointed out to us a spot, under which lay concealed the black stones, upon which the old highland chieftains, when they made contracts and alliances, used to take the oath, which was considered as more sacred than any other obligation, and could not be violated without the blackest infamy. Macdonald, lord of the isles, delivered the rights of their lands to his vassals in the isles and on the main land, with uplifted hands and bended knees on the black stones; and in this posture, and before many witnesses, solemnly swore that he would never recal the rights he then granted. So sacred was an oath sworn upon these stones, that it became proverbial for a person who was certain of what he affirmed, to say that he could make oath of it upon the black stones.—Martin's Description of the Western Isles, p. 260.

The revenues of this monastery and cathedral, were once very considerable. Donald Monro, dean of the isles, who visited many of them in the year 1549, says, that several islands belonged to it, as well as a considerable number of churches and chapels in Galloway, with large estates annexed; these, it seems, were taken from them, and granted to the canons of Holyrood-house, about the year 1180.* All the females who died in this

* Sir J. Dalrymple's Collection, and Pennant's Tour.

island were buried in the nunnery, and all the males in or near the abbey; and this custom still continues.

A LITTLE to the north of the cathedral, are the remains of the bishop's house, with his grounds and garden still inclosed; from which it would seem, that the bishops who resided here were content with a moderate share of the good things of this life, the house being very small. Here resided the bishops of the isles, after the Isle of Man was separated from them, and erected into a separate see. This event happened in the reign of Edward I. previous to which their cathedral was in the Isle of Man, but afterwards the abbots of Icolmkill allowed them the use of their church. They formerly had the title of bishops of Sodor and Man, but on the erection of two separate sees, the bishops of Man retained the old title, which they still keep, and those of the other see were called bishops of the isles.

THE title of these prelates, during the conjunction of Man and Sodor, has, as Mr. Pennant justly observes, been universally mistaken, till explained by Dr. Macpherson. It was, before that time, always supposed to be derived from Sodor, an imaginary town, either in Man or Icolmkill. During the time that the Norwegians possessed the isles, they divided them into two parts; the northern, which comprehended all that lay to the north of the point of Ardnamurchan, were called *Nordereys*, from *Norder*, north, and *I* or *Ey*, an island. And the *Sudereys*

took in those that lay to the south of that promontory.* But as the Sudereys was the most important division, it had the honour of giving the name to the bishopric, and the Isle of Man retained both titles after the separation, as the King of England retains that of King of France.†

VERY near the cathedral is a cell, said to be the burial place of St. Columba, and just within the great entry into the church, the bason for holy water still remains entire.

A LITTLE to the south of the cathedral, is a small chapel, pretty entire, called Oran's Chapel, which is said to be the first building attempted on this island by Columba; but that, by the machinations of some evil spirit, the walls tumbled down as fast as they were built up. Columba, on this betook himself to prayer, in a retired part of the island, and was told by an angel, that the building would never be completed till a human victim was buried alive. His friend and companion, Oran, generously offered himself as the victim, and was interred accordingly. After three days, Columba wished to take a farewell look at his old friend, and ordered the earth and stones to be removed from the tomb; when, to the astonishment of all present, Oran started up, and began to reveal "the secrets of his prison house," telling many strange things, and in particular, that hell was only a creature of the priests, and that no such place existed.

* Torfæus Hist. Orcad. † Pennant's Tour.

The politic Columba immediately ordered the earth to be flung in again; poor Oran was overwhelmed, and an end effectually put to his prating.

In Oran's chapel are several tomb-stones, and among them one with much carved work, but without any inscription, which was pointed out to us as the burial place of Oran.

In a small inclosure, near the south end of the chapel, lie the remains of Lauchlan Macfingon, father of John the Abbot; over his grave is placed a plain black stone, with the following incription in the old British character:

Hæc est crux Lauchlani Macfingon, et ejus filij Johannis, Abbatis de Ij facta. Anno Dom. M°†† CCCCLXXXIX.

West from this, at a small distance, lies a stone much impaired by time, with an inscription in the same character, but rude, and seemingly more ancient, without any date. This is the burial place of Angus Macdonald, of Cantyre and Isla, of whom mention has been before made in speaking of the feuds of the clans. The inscription is as follows:

Hic jacet Angusius filius Angusii Maic Domlinaab Dominii d Jla.

On the south side of the chapel is the gravestone of Ailean Nan Sop, a Ceatharnarch, chief of a family of the clan of Maclean, from whom is descended the present worthy laird of Tor-

loisk. On this stone is the figure of a ship under sail, a standard, four lions, and a tree. In this chapel is likewise the tomb of a Maclean of Lochbuie, grasping a pistol in his right hand, and in his left a sword. A Maclean of Col likewise lies buried here; the effigy is in armour, with a sword in his left hand. Very near the tomb of Angus Macdonald, lies his enemy and persecutor, the ambitious Maclean of Duart; the effigy likewise in armour, bearing a shield and a two-handed sword.

Here friends and foes
Lie close, unmindful of their former feuds.*

SOUTH of the chapel is an inclosure, containing a great number of tombs, but so overgrown with weeds, that few of the inscriptions are legible. In this inclosure lie the remains of 48 Scottish kings, four kings of Ireland, eight Norwegian monarchs, and one king of France, who were ambitious of reposing in this holy ground, where they would not mix with vulgar dust. There was likewise another, and probably a greater inducement to prefer this place as the receptacle of their remains; viz. a belief in the following ancient prophecy:

Seachd bliadna roimh'n brhaà
Thig muir thar *Eirin* re aon tra'
Sthar *Ile* ghu irm ghlais
Ach Snàmhaidh *I Colum* clairich.

* Blair.

IMITATION.

SEVEN years before that awful day,
When time shall be no more,
A watery deluge will o'er sweep
Hibernia's mossy shore:
The green clad Isla too shall sink,
While with the great and good,
Columba's happy isle will rear
Her towers above the flood.

BESIDES these tombs, where the bones of monarchs have probably long since mouldered away; in the same sanctuary, but at a respectful distance, lie most of the lords of the isles. The tomb-stones are very numerous, but scarcely any of them have any legible characters. Many of them most probably cover the remains of men, who, as Dr. Johnson observes, did not expect to be so soon forgotten.*

* Donald Monro, Dean of the Isles, gives the following account of these burial places, as they appeared when he visited them in the year 1549. "Within this isle of Colmkill, there is ane sanctuary, also, or kirkzaird, callit in Erische, Relig-Oran, quhilk is a very fair kirkzaird, and weill biggit about with staine and lyme: into this sanctuary ther is three tombes of staine formit like little chapels, with ane braid gray marble or quhin staine in the gavil of ilk ane of the tombes. In the staine of the ane tombe there is wretten in Latin letters, *Tumulus Regum Scotiæ*, that is, the tombe ore grave of the Scotts kinges. Within this tombe, according to our Scotts and Erische cronickels, there layes forty-eight crouned Scotts kinges, through the quhilk this isle has beine richlie dotat be the Scotts kinges, as we have said. The tombe on the south syde forsaid hes this inscription: *Tumulus Regum Hiberniæ*, that is, the tombe of the Irland kinges: for we have in our auld Erische cronickels, that ther wes foure Irland kinges eirdit in the said tombe. Upon the north syde of our Scotts tombe, the inscriptione bears *Tumulus Regum Norwegiæ*,

The memory of a celebrated physician to the family of Maclean, has, however, met with a better fate. The following inscription on his tomb is still legible, though in a few years the slow but sure hand of time will have effaced it:

Hic jacet Johannes Betonius, Maclenarum Familiæ Medicus, qui obiit 19 Novembris 1657, Æt. 63.

Donaldus Betonus fecit 1674.

Ecce cadit Jaculo victrici mortis inique
Qui toties alios solverat ipse malis,*
Soli Deo gloria.

Many of the Beatons who resided at Pennicross, in Mull, were physicians. The family is now extinct, but they are still spoken of in the country with admiration for their skill in their

that is, the tombe of the kinges of Norroway: in the quhilk tombe, as we find in our ancient Erische cronickels, ther layes eight kinges of Norroway: and als we find in our Erische cronickels, that Coelus, king of Norroway, commandit his nobils to take his bodey, and burey it in Colm-kill, if it chancit him to die in the isles, bot he was so discomfitit, that ther remained not so maney of his armey, as wald bury him ther, therfor he was eirded in Kyle, after he stroke ane field against the Scotts, and was vanquishst be them. Within this sanctuary also, lyes the maist part of the lords of the isles, with their lynage, M'Kynnon and M'Guare with their lynages, with sundrie uthers inhabitants of the hail isles, because this sanctuarey wes wont to be the sepulture of the best men of all the isles, and als of our kinges as we have said: becaus it was the maist honorable and ancient place that was in Scotland in thair dayes, as we reid."—Description of the Western Iles by Donald Monro, High Dean of the Iles.

* Proud Æsculapius' son!
Where are thy boasted implements of Art,
And all thy well-cramm'd magazines of Health?

BLAIR.

profession. It is said, that one of them was sent for to attend one of the kings of Scotland; and that the people of the country flocked to him for advice respecting their health during his absence, when he gave to them this short rule: *Bhi gu sugah, geanmni, mochrach,* which signifies, be cheerful, temperate, and early risers. It must be owned, that the whole college of physicians could not have devised a better rule. This family had a large folio manuscript in Gaelic, on medical subjects, which was left with a woman, the heiress of the Beatons, and has been seen by some who are now living, but it cannot at present be heard of, and is probably lost, as the heirs of this woman are quite illiterate.*

The churches in this island have been built chiefly of grit, and a species of red granite of the Egyptian kind, with very large grains, which has been brought from the isle of Nuns.

We had now examined the principal ruins of this island, and though they may be inferior in magnitude and grandeur to many that are to be met with, yet, when we consider the situation of the island, the time when the buildings were erected, as well as the disadvantages under which they have been undertaken, they may be looked upon as the greatest curiosities of the kind in the British empire, especially, when we connect with them the circumstances which have been already mentioned,

* Statistical Account of Kilfinichen and Kilviceuen.

viz. the flourishing state of learning, at the time when the rest of Europe and of the world was wrapt in the dark cloud of ignorance and barbarism.

A LITTLE above the cathedral was a pond, which is now nearly filled up with vegetable matter; through the middle of it is a causeway. This pond was once within the abbey garden. We crossed this causeway, and ascended an eminence called Dun-y, the highest hill in the island, from which, in a clear day, is a fine view of the neighbouring islands; viz. Oransay, Tiree, Col, Staffa, Dutchman's Cap, &c.

HAVING gratified our eyes with this sight, we returned to breakfast. As we had been promised tea and eggs, we invited our virtuoso to share our repast, but to our mortification found that they had only two tea-cups and one tea-spoon, which was a wooden one, but being armed with good appetites, we managed, notwithstanding these difficulties, to make a tolerable meal.

AFTER breakfast, Mr. Watts returned to take sketches of the ruins, whilst I accompanied our guide over those parts of the island which we had not yet seen. We passed a quarry of fine white marble, which was discovered by Mr. Raspe, and wrought for some time, but it was almost impossible to procure large blocks of it, and when they were procured, it was very difficult to convey them from the spot to a boat; on these accounts the work has been given up, though if it was properly encouraged

by the noble proprietor, I think it might be carried on with advantage.

From this quarry we proceeded to the most westerly part of the island, where is a small bay, called Porta chunich, or Porta-currach: it was here that Columba first landed in a currach, or wicker boat covered with hides, such as were in use at that time, accompanied by twelve of his friends and followers. Here is an artificial mound in the form of a boat, with the keel up, which is said to represent the size and shape of Columba's currach; this mound is near fifty feet in length.

In this bay are immense numbers of beautiful pebbles, chiefly serpentine stone, jasper, granite, marble, lapis nephriticus, nephritic asbestos, violet coloured quartz, and porphyry. These pebbles are rounded, and finely polished by the tide, which rolls immense quantities of them backwards and forwards, with a noise like thunder.

The flat ground near this place, which has been evidently left by the sea embanking itself, is almost covered with conical heaps of these pebbles of considerable magnitude; these it is said were the penances of the monks, who were to raise heaps of a magnitude proportioned to their crimes. If we may judge by the size of some of them, it is no breach of charity, as Mr. Pennant observes, to think that there were among these holy men enormous sinners.

We returned along the north side of the island, with a view of collecting some plants that grow near the shore; on our right we ascended a small hill, called *Croc nar-aimgeal,* or the hill of angels, from a tradition that Columba had a conference with these celestial beings on this hill soon after his arrival. On the top of the hill is a small circle of stones, evidently druidical. Bishop Pococke informed Mr. Pennant, that the natives were accustomed to bring their horses to this circle at the feast of St. Michael, and to course round it; this usage he thinks originated from the custom of blessing the horses, in the days of superstition, but in the latter times the horses were still assembled, though the reason is forgotten.*

To the naturalist, this island is almost as interesting as to the antiquarian. The greatest part of the island consists of limestone; in some places it appears in the form of a very fine white marble, in others dove coloured; besides the different pebbles mentioned in Porta-currach, some large blocks of jasper are found. Though Icolmkill is a secondary island, none of the primitive rocks being found in it, except in loose masses, yet the neighbouring small island, separated from Icolmkill by a very narrow sound, consists almost entirely of a coarse grained red granite, resembling the Egyptian; with this granite, as has been observed, part of the sacred edifices have been constructed, as well as the huts of the present inhabitants. This island is

* Pennant's Tour.

called the Isle of Nuns, because the nuns resided here before Columba allowed them to settle in I.

In the Bay of Martyrs is found hornblende, and in different parts of the island green and red jasper, with some specimens of zeolite. We have a curious specimen of zeolite investing limestone, in the museum of Anderson's Institution, which came from this island. The zeolite is in the form of the wax of a honeycomb, having the cells filled with limestone.

In the botanical kingdom is found the *Pulmonaria maritima*, or sea bugloss, a beautiful plant, the blossoms of which are pink before they expand, but immediately change to a fine blue. The *Eryngium maritimum*, or sea holly; these two plants grow plentifully on the north shore of the island, between Porta-currach and the hill of angels. The *Cotyledon umbilicus*, or navel-wort, grows on almost every part of the ruins, both of the nunnery and cathedral. The *Menyanthes trifoliatum*, or marsh trefoil, one of the most beautiful of our native flowers, and distinguished by its woolly petals, grows in great plenty in the pond above the cathedral. A considerable part of the skirts of Dun-y is covered with the *Anagallis tenella*, or purple-flowered money-wort. The *Juniperus communis*, or juniper tree, is common on most of the hills, though of a very dwarfish size. The *Salix Lapponum*, or Lapland willow, a very scarce shrub, grows not far from the marble quarry.

THE number of inhabitants in the island at this time was 336, so that they must have increased greatly since the time when Mr Pennant visited it, who states them at 150, though more persons have left the island than have come to reside in it from other parts: but it seems a very healthy place, notwithstanding the poverty of the inhabitants. The women are very prolific.

THE male inhabitants are all fishermen, and most of them kelp-makers. They still retain some opinions handed down by their ancestors, perhaps from the times of the Druids. In particular, they believe that the spirit of the last person that was buried, watches round the church-yard till another is interred, to whom he delivers his charge.

THERE is a person in the island of the name of Innis, who pretends to cure scrofula by touching. He is a seventh son, and touches or rubs the sore with his hand two successive Sundays and Thursdays. He asks no fee, and it is believed that if he did there would be no cure. He is often sent for out of the island, and though he demands nothing, the patients or their friends generally make him presents. He is perfectly illiterate, and says he does not know how the cure is effected, but that God is pleased to work it in consequence of his touch.

HERE are some persons who can repeat several of the Celtic poems of Ossian, and other bards. The schoolmaster told me,

he could repeat a very long one on the death of Oscar, which was taught him by his grandfather.

THE college, or monastery, was formerly possessed of a valuable library, which has been destroyed or lost. Boethius asserts, that Fergus II. who assisted *Alaric* the Goth, in the sacking of Rome, brought away, as part of the plunder, a chest of manuscripts, which he presented to the monastery of Icolmkill.* A small parcel of these books were, in the year 1525, brought to Aberdeen, and great pains were taken to unfold them, but through age and the tenderness of the parchment, little could be read; from what the learned were able to make out, the work appeared by the style to be an unpublished book of Sallust.†

MR. PENNANT observes, that the register and records of the island, all written on parchment, and probably other more antique and valuable remains, were destroyed by that worse than Gothic synod, which, at the Reformation, declared war against all science. At the Reformation, the M. MS. of I, which were saved, were in part carried to the Scotch colleges of Douay and Rome, at least the Chartularies, and such as were esteemed most valuable by the monks. It is said, that some of the manuscripts were carried to Inverary, and that one of the dukes of Montague found some of them in the shops of that town used as snuff-paper.‡

* Boethius, Lib. vii. † Pennant's Tour.
‡ Stat. Account of Kilfinichen and Kilviceuen.

THIS island is the property of the duke of Argyle, and forms part of the parish of Ross, or Kilviceuen; the minister of the parish, who resides at Ross in Mull, performs divine service once a quarter in this island; and this is, I believe, all the religious instruction the inhabitants receive. Strange reverse, that divine service should only be performed four times a year in a place where it was formerly employed as many times a day.

THERE is a school established by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, and the salary, perquisites, &c. of the schoolmaster amount to about twenty pounds per annum.

THE island is divided into two districts, and the cattle in each district are herded by a common herd, which would seem a considerable advantage, as fewer persons are taken from the industrious to this lazy occupation. The inhabitants of this island cannot, however, be praised for their industry, being by no means fond of agriculture, which is owing to their being tenants at will, or having no leases of their farms. Where there is any arable ground, the farmers *run-rig*, as it is called; that is, one person ploughs one ridge, another a second, another a third, and each sows his proportion when he thinks proper; a method which is extremely unfavourable to agriculture. This mode of letting arable ground to several tenants, throws a great damp upon the efforts of industry, and prevents those improvements which would otherwise be introduced. When every one possesses his arable ground contiguous to the other parts of his farm, it is

made to produce more than double of what it did under the run-rig system.*

THIS island, from the nature of its soil, seems much more capable of improvement by cultivation, than any part of Mull; but this can never take place to any considerable extent, till the tenants have leases, and comfortable cottages, instead of the wretched hovels which they inhabit. All the huts in the island are grouped together in the form of an irregular village.

THERE is plenty of fine shell sand, mixed with a kind of blackish loam, on the shore: which would afford an excellent top dressing if the natives would use it; and were they encouraged by leases, they would undoubtedly convert the limestone of the island into lime. Oats, barley, and some flax are cultivated here, and potatoes grow remarkably well. Their method of sowing barley is singular: the seed is sown before the ground is ploughed, and they then plough the ground over it. This prevents the grain from being bared by high winds, which are often known to drift the sandy soil off it. This mode, which was undoubtedly introduced by necessity, answers very well, The potatoes are manured with sea ware, collected during the winter.

AFTER having examined whatever was worthy of attention in this island, and made considerable additions to my mineralo-

* Smith's Agricultural Survey, p. 73.

gical and botanical collection, we left the place about noon, with a fair wind but a very rough sea; and sailing between the islands of Ulva and Mull, we arrived at Torloisk in about four hours. We passed a little flat and verdant isle on the left, called Inch-Kenneth, where Dr. Johnson was hospitably entertained by Sir ALLAN MACLEAN and his daughters, who had then a house there, and enjoyed all the pleasures of elegant society in this sequestered spot. This animated and nervous writer observes, that romance does not often exhibit a scene which strikes the imagination more than this little isle in the depths of western obscurity, occupied not by a gross herdsman or amphibious fisherman, but by a gentleman and two ladies, of high birth, polished manners, and elegant conversation, who practised all the kindness of hospitality and refinement of courtesy. How forcibly we felt the justice of these observations, when we applied them to the worthy family of Torloisk!

INCH-KENNETH was once a seminary of monks, probably subordinate to Icolmkill; the ruins of a chapel still remain. In passing the sound of Mull, we saw on the steep banks of the island of Ulva several ranges of basaltic columns, resembling those of Staffa in colour, but inferior in size and regularity.

JULY 22d, being Sunday, we accompanied our worthy host to church, which was about a mile distant; the minister preached in Gaelic, but had afterwards the politeness to give us a discourse

in English. After the service we were highly gratified with the respect paid to our hospitable friend by his tenants and the neighbouring peasantry; they waited till he came out, when he took each by the hand, and inquired kindly after their families and affairs.

JULY 23d. The time was now come when we must leave this hospitable mansion; we had been here several days, and could have lingered as many more, but our time was limited; and there was no kind storm to prolong our stay: early in the morning we took leave of our friends, who would not suffer us to depart without breakfast.* Mr. Maclean sent his servant with us to Aros as a guide.

WE called on Mr. STEWART at Achadashenaig, near Aros, who politely pressed us to spend the day with him; but it was our wish to dine at Achnacraig, and reach Oban that evening, as the day was remarkably fine. After resting our horses we therefore proceeded; but when we arrived at Achnacraig, the ferry-boat was engaged to take a party to a considerable distance; we were therefore under the necessity of stopping till the next morning, nor did we reach Oban till one o'clock on the 24th. As we found ourselves a little out of sorts, we determined to spend the day in this port to refit, which gave me an oppor-

* Since this was written, I have learned that our worthy friend, who was then in a bad state of health, is dead.

tunity of packing up my minerals, and dispatching them to Glasgow. I likewise extended my notes, and Mr. Watts employed himself in retouching his sketches.

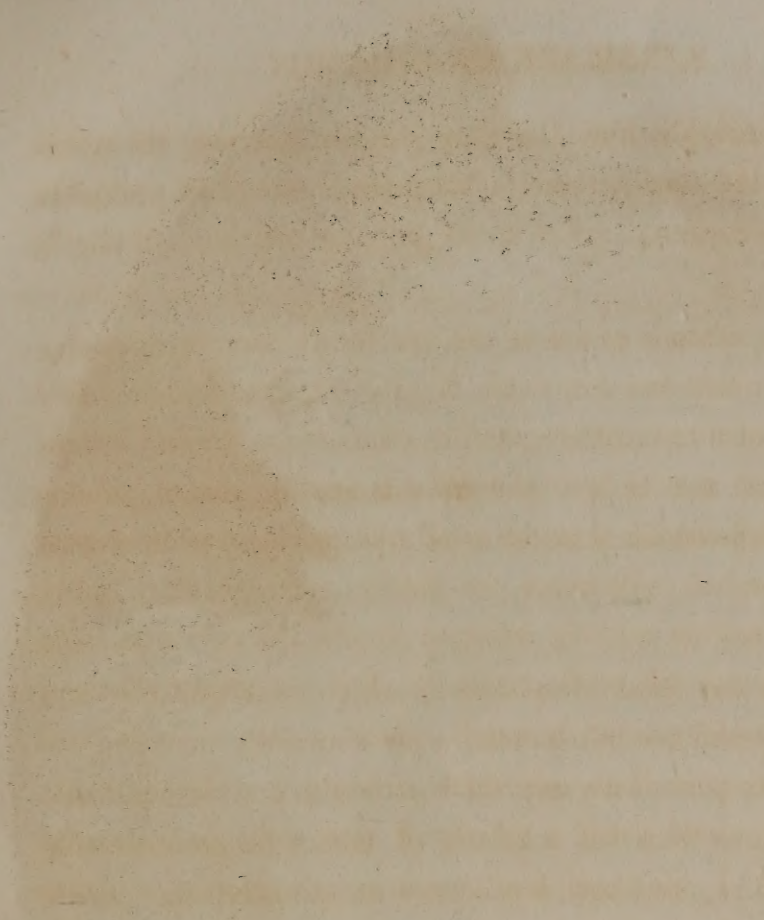
In the evening we walked out to take a more accurate view of Oban and the neighbourhood, than we had time to do before. In the immediate vicinity of this village, are immense rocks of pudding-stone. There is a large mass of it near the inn, and it may be traced along the coast towards Dunstaffnage for some miles. These rocks, which are extremely curious, are composed of different kinds of rounded pebbles, similar to those that generally form the beds of rivers, from the size of a hen's egg to that of a man's head. Some of these pebbles are quartose, others porphyric, granitic, schistous, and calcareous, and are cemented together very firmly by a black lava. This is certainly a curious circumstance, and can only, I think, be explained on the supposition of a submarine volcano. A quantity of lava has probably been thrown up under the bed of a river or the sea, which flowing among the pebbles, and becoming speedily cooled by the superincumbent water, has connected them firmly together. Some of these rocks assume very grotesque forms, and we may either suppose that they have been thrown up by lava, which has instantly condensed, and preserved the forms, or that the sea has left that part which it formerly covered, and thus exposed to view the convulsions which have torn and agitated its bed. Though there are several specimens of lava and basaltes, as well as other volcanic mi-

nerals, in the neighbourhood of Oban, highly deserving the attention of the mineralogist, these pudding-stone rocks are undoubtedly the most curious.

The bay of Oban is of a semicircular form, and from twelve to twenty-four fathoms deep; it is large enough to contain five hundred sail of merchantmen, and the anchorage is every where very good; but the traders and inhabitants in general, labour under great inconvenience for want of a proper quay to discharge their goods.

There is a very good school-house, which was built by the duke of Argyle and the inhabitants, who conjointly make up a salary of twenty pounds a year; the master also derives considerable emoluments from his scholars, of whom he has generally from forty to fifty; he likewise officiates as minister, the parish church being both too distant and too small. We met with this gentleman in our walk, and he very politely pointed out to us any thing worth notice.

In the neighbourhood of Oban is a very remarkable cave in the face of a rock, narrow at the mouth, but enlarging afterwards, and extending to an unknown distance. A collection of human bones still remain in it. The account given of this collection to the minister of the parish, by an old person living in the neighbourhood, is the following:



Dunolly Castle.

About 100 years ago, a relation of this person having taken some umbrage at his grandfather, left his house for the purpose of revenge. He went to Ireland, and some years afterwards returned with a banditti of miscreants, with whom he had conspired to set fire to the village near Oban, in which his grandfather dwelt. On the appearance of the vessel, which brought them before Oban, the inhabitants received intelligence of their intentions, and likewise of the crew being infected with the plague; on which they collected a superior force, watched their landing, took them prisoners, and shut them up in the cave, where, by the humanity of the young man's grandfather, they were (though closely guarded) fed for some time, till they all died of the disease which they brought with them. A man, who died lately, once visited this cave in his younger years, in hopes of finding a treasure in it; but found only a gold-headed cane, and a large silver broach. These, however, he afterwards returned, being haunted, as he believed, by spectres till he had done so.*

Along the bay of Oban is a very pleasant walk, which leads to Dunolly Castle, about a mile distant. The first view of this ancient fortress is very striking, it stands on the top of a bold basaltic rock: the fore-ground of the picture consists of some singularly shaped rocks of pudding-stone.

* Stat. Account of Kilmore and Kilbride.

THIS castle is the property of Mr. MACDOUGAL, who is also proprietor of the island of Kerrera, and a descendant of the ancient chieftains of Lorn. From Dunolly Castle is a very fine view of Mull, Kerrera, Lismore, and several other islands on the coast of Argyleshire.

JULY 25th. We left Oban early in the morning, and on the road between this place and Connel, observed several of the same kind of pudding-stone rocks that we saw near Oban, which seem to have been formed by a current of lava flowing among a bed of pebbles: circumstances will shortly be mentioned which show, that this country has formerly been the seat of a volcano.

AT Connel, which is four miles distant from Oban, we crossed Loch-Etive. At this place is the very rapid current formerly described; it was, even at the time we crossed it, very rapid near the middle; and the ferry-men, instead of attempting to row directly across, which they could not have done, went a considerable way up the side of the loch, and then aiming straight over, we were brought by the compound motion of the oars and current, to the desired landing-place. We proceeded along an arm of Loch-Creran, leaving Ardmucknage, the seat of Sir DUNCAN CAMPBELL of Loch-Nell, on our left, on the opposite side of the loch. Not far from the house, upon a steep eminence, is a gothic temple, visible at a great distance, and which must command a fine prospect. We con-

tinued our ride under some over-hanging rocks of immense magnitude, similar in their compositions to the Oban pudding-stone; from these several huge masses had been detached, which lay on the other side of the road.

In this district stood the celebrated city of Beregonium; the foundation of this city, which was for several ages the capital of Scotland, is attributed to Fergus II. It was the principal residence, and burial place of the kings, before the seat of government was removed to Dunstaffnage. A causeway, paved with common stones, is still called *Straid-mharagaid*, or the Market Street; and another, at a little distance, goes by the name of *Straid-namin*, or Meal Street. About a dozen years ago, a man cutting peats in a moss between the two neighbouring hills, found one of the wooden pipes that conveyed water from the hill to the city, at the depth of five feet below the surface.*

There is a tradition, that Beregonium was destroyed by fire from heaven. In confirmation of this tradition, or rather as a proof that the fire which destroyed it came from the earth, it may be mentioned, that a high rock near the summit of one of the hills, has evidently a volcanic appearance. In most parts of the hill are likewise dug up great quantities of different sorts of pumices, or scoriæ of different kinds, particularly the *Pumex cinerarius*, and the *Pumex molaris* of Linnæus, very similar to the Iceland pumice-stone presented to Mr. Pennant by Sir Joseph

* Stat. Account of Ardchattan and Muckairn.

Banks.* These circumstances, I think, tend strongly to prove that this hill is an extinct volcano.†

At the distance of four miles from Connel, we crossed Loch-Creran, at Shean ferry, and soon entered the extensive plantations of Airds. The grounds, which are naturally romantic, have been ornamented with taste, and the roads are embowered with shade. We had a good view of the house, which is the property of Mr. Campbell of Airds, and is very pleasantly situated.

We were now travelling on the banks of that great arm of the sea, called Loch-Linnhe; on a small island in one of the branches of this loch, stand the ruins of Castle Stalkir, which appears to have been formerly a place of considerable strength: the most remarkable circumstance that attracted our notice was, its being nearly as large as the island on which it stands. The view from this part of the road, which is very fine, comprehends the castle and some islands, a part of Loch-Linnhe, with some picturesque mountains in the back ground. This castle is the property of Mr. Campbell of Airds.

* Pennant's Voyage to the Hebrides, p. 413.

† Though basaltes and lava, as well as zeolite, which is generally considered as a volcanic mineral, are very common in North Britain, I believe that pumice-stone has seldom been found: but on a hill in this district, considerable quantities of it may be broken from the rocks of lava. I have some specimens from this place as fine as any I have seen from Vesuvius.

Castle Stalkir

Drawn by W. Havell.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

Glamorg.

RIDING round the head of this arm of the Loch, we came to the inn of Portnacraish, about five miles distant from Shean ferry; here we breakfasted, and Mr. Watts afterwards took a sketch of the castle and surrounding scenery. Between the house of Airds and Portnacraish, is a rock of white marble almost close to the road.

CONTINUING our road on the banks of Loch Linnhe, which are very romantic, the opposite side being bounded by the rugged hills of Morven, we passed Appin House, the property of the Marquis of Tweedale, but inhabited at present by a Mr. Stevenson. The situation is charming, commanding a fine view of the Loch, the island of Lismore, and the country of Fingal. The plantations are very extensive, and add much to the beauty of the country.

SOON after we passed Appin House, we saw several enormous blocks of quartz lying close to the shore: a few miles farther, Loch Leven opens to our view, with a great deal of grandeur and sublimity; it is a branch of Loch Linnhe, and is nearly surrounded by lofty mountains. After riding for some miles along the banks of this Loch, we reached Ballichellish, where is a ferry towards Fort William, which place we could easily have reached this evening, had we not wished to see the celebrated Glen-coe. We therefore determined to take our residence here for the night, and after dinner walked along the banks of the Loch.

THE situation of this lake is extremely beautiful, surrounded by lofty mountains on every side, rearing their rugged weather-beaten heads to the clouds: indeed, those who admire rude mountain scenery, will meet with it here in perfection. The roads from Oban to this place are remarkably good: the pebbles on the sides of the lochs we passed are chiefly granite, which constitutes the bulk of the neighbouring mountains.

NEAR the head of Loch Leven are some islands, by no means destitute of beauty. On one of these are the ruins of a church, which was dedicated to St. Mungo: the island is still called St. Mungo's Isle, and continues to be the burial place of the inhabitants on both sides of the Loch. I have several times had occasion to observe the situation of burial grounds on islands; indeed, this custom generally prevailed when such islands were within a convenient distance, and probably originated at a time when wolves were common in Britain. These ravenous animals have been frequently known to dig up the graves, in order to get at the dead bodies. In places where there was not this insular security to protect the remains of the dead, large heaps of stones were piled over the graves of persons of any consequence, which heaps have been called cairns.

ON the side of the road, near the head of the Loch, is a very fine quarry of blue slate. A considerable number of workmen are employed here, and great quantities of slates sent an-

nually to Leith, the Clyde, England, Ireland, and even to America. Vessels of any burden can load most commodiously in fine smooth sand, and so near the shore, that nothing more is necessary than to throw a few planks between the vessels and the shore, and carry the slates on board in wheel-barrows.

We found the accommodations both for ourselves and our horses at the ferry-house of Ballichellish very uncomfortable, but being fatigued by the labour and heat of the preceding day, we slept tolerably, and early the next morning (July 26) set off for Glencoe. Our road was along the banks of Loch Leven, by the slate quarry above described: soon after we passed this quarry, we crossed the Coe,* a very rapid river, and entered the celebrated glen.

Nor were our expectations, though highly raised by the reports we had heard, in any degree disappointed. The steep and rugged mountains, on whose sides the blue mists hung, and which were worn into deep furrows by the rapid currents that tumble down them, together with the fertile valley, and the

* This stream is the *Cona* of Ossia.

Their sound was like a thousand streams that meet in Cona's vale, when after a stormy night they turn their dark eddies between the pale light of the morning.

FINGAL.

The gloomy ranks of Lochlin fell like the banks of the roaring Cona. Ib.

If he overcomes, I rush in my strength like the roaring stream of Cona.

CARTHON.

river winding through it, render this glen awfully grand and picturesque in an uncommon degree. The accompanying print will give a tolerable idea of this stupendous scene, though it is next to impossible to convey on a small scrap of paper, any adequate notion of its grandeur. On the right is Malmor, a mountain celebrated by Ossian; on the left, Con Fion, or the hill of Fingal. The valley is closed by some other grotesque mountains, which were almost covered with mist, and which seem to shut the inhabitants of this romantic glen completely from the world.

THIS celebrated glen was the birth-place of Ossian, as would appear from several passages in the poems of that bard.* Any poetical genius who had spent the early days of his life in this glen, must have had the same or similar ideas, and would have painted them in the same manner that Ossian has done; for he would here see nothing but grand and simple imagery—the blue

* Sleeps the sweet voice of Cona in the midst of his rustling hall? Sleeps Ossian in his hall, and his friends without their fame?——Conlath and Cuthóna.

The chiefs gathered from all their hills, and heard the lovely sound. They praised the voice of Cona, the first among a thousand bards. But age is now on my tongue, and my soul has failed.——The songs of Selma.

So shall they search in vain for the voice of Cona, after it has failed in the field. The hunter shall come forth in the morning, and the voice of my harp shall not be heard. "Where is the son of car-borne Fingal?" The tear will be on his cheek. Then come thou, O Malvina, with all thy music, come; lay Ossian in the plain of Lutha; let his tomb rise in the lovely field.——Berrathon.

Why bends the bard of Cona" said Fingal, "over his secret stream? Is this a time for sorrow, father of low-laid Oscar?"——Temora.

mists hanging on the hills—the sun peeping through a cloud—the raging of the storm, or the fury of the torrent.

This glen was frequently the resort of Fingal and his party. It seems to me wonderful, that any person who has travelled in the highlands, should doubt the authenticity of the Celtic poetry, which has been given to the English reader by Macpherson: since in almost every glen are to be found persons who can repeat from tradition several of these, and other Celtic tales of the same date. I cannot pretend to offer any evidence stronger than what has been brought forward. I trust, however, that the following extract from a letter which I received from Dr. Mac Intire of Glenorchay, on this subject, will not be uninteresting to the reader:

"To the mass of evidence laid already before the public, by persons of the first respectability in the nation, I know of little that can be added. These tales we have been accustomed to hear recited from our earliest years, and they have made an indelible impression on my memory. In the close of the year 1783, and beginning of 1784, I was in London: for some time previous to that period, I had a correspondence with Mr. Macpherson, but not on subjects of Celtic literature. During two months that I continued in London, I was frequently with him at his own house, and elsewhere. We spoke occasionally about the poems, and the attempt made by Dr. Johnson to discredit them. I hinted, that though my own belief of their authen-

ticity was unalterably fixed, still my opinion ever was, that he had never found the poem of Fingal, in the full and perfect form in which he had published it; but that having got the substance, or greatest part of the interesting tale, he had from his knowledge of Celtic imagery and allusions, filled up the chasms in the translation. He replied, 'You are much mistaken in the matter—I had occasion to do less of that than you suppose—and at any time that you are at leisure, and wish to see the originals, tell me, and we will concert a day for going to my house on Putney-heath, where these papers lie, and you will then be satisfied.' This conversation passed in presence of Dr. Shaw, a Scots physician, to whom he introduced me.

"I FULLY intended to avail myself of this offer, but have to regret that, from various avocations, and leaving London sooner than I thought I could, I was prevented from a sight and perusal of the original of these poems.

"CALLING the day before I left London on the late General Mac Nab, a gentleman well versed in Celtic literature, and of unimpeached veracity and honour, who had lived long in habits of intimacy with Mr. Macpherson, I mentioned this circumstance to him, and my regret: he said he was sorry I had not seen the poems; that to him Mr. Macpherson had often recited parts of Fingal in the Gaëlic, with various other tales, which brought to his remembrance what had given him so much gratification when a boy.

"THUS, my dear Sir, have I given you a diffuse, but a true detail of a circumstance, that can add little to the credibility of a fact, authenticated by men, whom no consideration could induce to avow a falsehood.

"THE highland society, who intend to publish the original of Fingal, have applied to me for an account of the preceding conversation with Mr. Macpherson, which I have hitherto been prevented from communicating: you are therefore at full liberty to make what use of it you please.

"AT the time when I was a student of theology, I was present at the delivery of a sermon, by a worthy but eccentric preacher, on the resurrection from the dead. He concluded his subject with words that I can never forget. 'Thus have I endeavoured to set before you this great truth of God—and I trust that you believe it: but believe it who will, I believe it myself.' So say I in all the candour of truth, as to the poems of Ossian.—Believe them who will, I believe them myself.

"MY son is anxious to procure you some unpublished Celtic tales: but the truth is, that Dr. Smith of Campbeltown, who is a native of this parish, and who has been indefatigable in his research for these tales, has picked up every thing of value of that kind in the country, and published them with translations. Indeed, the period is past, or almost past, when an investigation and search after these amusements of 'the times of old' would be of avail. Happily, our people are forming

habits, and acquiring modes of industry and manners, that preclude the tale, and the song, and the harp."

THE house represented in the view, which is necessarily on a very small scale, otherwise no degree of proportion could have been preserved, is the property of the laird of Glencoe, but occupied by Mr. Macdonald, of Achtrichatain, with whom we breakfasted, and from whom we received attention and civility. After breakfast, we rode some miles up the glen, and passed the village of Achtrichatain, the property of the above-mentioned gentleman. Here the river expands to a small lake, and the scenery becomes more and more grand: the valley contracted, and rugged mountains closed us in on every side. Down these fall terrible torrents, which have worn in their red sides deep chasms, and almost cleft them asunder.* After a heavy rain the appearance of these torrents must be uncommonly grand.

THIS celebrated glen well deserves a visit from the traveller or the tourist, which may be easily done if he pursue our route; or should he go from Tyndrum to Fort William, the road will take him through Glencoe.

IT were to be wished, that the historian of this glen could record nothing worse of it than the martial deeds of Fingal, and his heroes; but truth will oblige me to relate an occurrence in

* This seems to be noticed, and beautifully described by Ossian in his Fingal. "Thus have I seen on Cona; (but Cona I behold no more) thus have I seen two dark hills removed from their place by the strength of the bursting stream. They turn from side to side, and their tall oaks meet one another on high."

history, the most barbarous that has happened in modern times, or was ever sanctioned by any regular government. I mean the massacre of Glencoe, of which the following is the most authentic account I could procure, either from writers, or persons on the spot.

THOUGH the act of settlement in favour of William, had passed both in England and Scotland, yet a number of the highland clans, attached to their late unfortunate monarch, and irritated by some of the proceedings of the new government, bowed with reluctance to the yoke. The Earl of Breadalbane, however, undertook to bring them over by distributing sums of money among their chiefs; and fifteen thousand pounds were remitted from England for that purpose. The clans being informed of this remittance, suspected that the Earl's design was to appropriate to himself the best part of the money; accordingly, when he began to sound them, they made such extravagant demands, that he found his scheme impracticable; he therefore refunded the money, resolving to be revenged on those who frustrated his intention. Among these was MACDONALD of Glencoe, against whom he is said to have entertained a private resentment, and to have watched with impatience an opportunity for his destruction.

IT seems that a party of the Macdonalds, on some expedition, common even in these days, had plundered the lands of the Earl of Breadalbane, who now insisted on being indemnified for his

losses, from the other's share of the money which he was employed to distribute. The proud chief refused to comply with this, alledging that his plundering expedition had only been a retaliation for similar depredations committed on his property by the vassals of the Earl.

In consequence of this, Breadalbane is said to have represented him at court, as an incorrigible rebel, who would never be obedient to the laws of his country, nor live peaceably under any sovereign. He observed, that he had paid no regard to the late proclamation, and proposed that the government should sacrifice him, with his family and dependants, to the quiet of the kingdom. This proclamation had been issued some time before by the king, offering an indemnity to all who had been in arms against him, if they would submit, and take the oaths of allegiance before the expiration of the year, but threatening with military execution all those who should hold out after the end of December. Macdonald, for a while refused to submit, alledging that he kept his opinions quietly to himself, without injury to any one; but as the day of grace was near expiring, the tender ties of affection began to be drawn more closely, and his fears for his wife, his children, and his dependants, overcame his indignation. On the very last day of the month, he repaired to Fort William, and requested that the oaths might be tendered to him by Colonel Hill, governor of that fortress. As this officer was not vested with the power of a civil magistrate, he refused to administer them; upon which, Macdonald immediately set

out for Inverary. Though the ground was covered with snow, and the weather intensely cold, he travelled with such diligence, that the term prescribed by the proclamation was but one day elapsed when he reached the place, and applied to Sir JOHN CAMPBELL, Sheriff of the county, who, on consideration of his disappointment at Fort William, was prevailed on to administer the oaths to him and his adherents. They then returned quietly to Glencoe, confident of being protected by a government to which they had so solemnly submitted.

IN consequence, however, of Breadalbane's representations, the king, whose chief virtue, Smollet observes, was not humanity, and who indeed might not perhaps have heard of Macdonald's submission, signed an order for putting near two hundred people to death, with as little ceremony, as if it had been an order to apprehend a smuggler.

THE warrant being transmitted to the master of Stair, secretary of state for Scotland, this minister sent directions to Livingstone, the commander in chief, to put the inhabitants of Glencoe to the sword; he had particular instructions to take no prisoners, that the scene might be rendered as terrible as possible, and serve as an example to the refractory clans.

EARLY in the month of February, 1691, Captain CAMPBELL of Glenlyon, by virtue of an order from Major DUNCANSON, marched into the valley of Glencoe, with a company of soldiers,

on pretence of levying the arrears of the land-tax and hearth money; and when Macdonald inquired into their intention, he answered it was friendly, and promised, *upon his honour*, that neither he nor his people should sustain the least injury.

In consequence of this declaration, he and his men were received with most cordial hospitality, and were entertained in the most friendly manner, for the space of fifteen days. At length the fatal period approached. Macdonald and Campbell had spent the day together, and the evening was spent by Campbell and some of his officers, at cards, with the laird of Glencoe and his wife, as well as Macdonald of Achtrichatain, and some other neighbouring gentlemen: they parted early, with mutual promises of the warmest affection.

Young Macdonald, however, perceiving the guards doubled, as well as something mysterious in the conduct of the troops, began to suspect some treachery, and communicated his suspicions to his father, who had so much confidence in the honour of Campbell, that he treated his suspicions with jocularity. The youth, at the close of day, drew his brother aside, and took him privately among the soldiers to make observations. Approaching a guard, under cover of the night, they overheard a sentinel tell his fellow his dislike to the business; he would have had no objection, he said, to have fought the Macdolands of the Glen fairly in the field, but that he detested murdering them in cold blood: "However," says he, "our officers are answerable

for the treachery." Upon hearing this conversation, the two terrified young men hastened back to their father's house, to warn him of the danger:—but the bloody business was begun. As they approached, they heard the report of fire arms, and the shrieks of despair, and being themselves destitute of arms, secured their own lives by flight.

THE savage ministers of vengeance entered the old man's chamber; he started up, and was instantly shot through the hade. He fell down dead in the arms of his astonished wife, who died the next day, distracted by the horror of her husband's fate. The laird of Achtrichatain, an ancestor of the gentleman with whom we breakfasted, who, as was before observed, was at that time the guest of Glencoe, shared the fate of his host, though he had submitted to government three months before, and had the king's protection in his pocket. His descendant informed us, that a faithful follower of the name of Kennedy, seeing the fatal musket levelled, and the deadly aim taken, threw himself between the assassin and his chief, in hopes of saving the life of his master at the expence of his own, but the ball killed both. The houses of the tenants and dependants were surrounded, and every man butchered who was found. Thirty-eight persons were thus surprised in their beds, and hurried into eternity before they had itme to implore the divine mercy. The design was to murder all the males under seventy that lived in the valley, the number of whom amounted to about two hundred; but some of the de-

tachments fortunately did not arrive in time enough to secure the passes; so that about one hundred and sixty made their escape.

CAMPBELL having perpetrated this brutal massacre, ordered all the houses to be burned, and made a prey of the cattle and effects that were found in the valley. Macdonald's house was exactly in the situation of that represented in the view of Glencoe: to the right of it is a barn, then a dwelling house, in which several were shot, and which escaped the flames of the plunderers.

THE women and children were indeed spared the immediate stroke of death, as if to render their fate more cruel; for such of them as had neither died of the fright, nor been butchered by mistake, were turned out naked, at the dead of night, a keen freezing night, into a waste covered with snow, at the distance of six long miles from any inhabited place.

THE morning dawned, and discovered the horrid deed in all its guilt. Thirty-eight slaughtered bodies were drawn out, and the women were in general found either starved to death, or expiring, with their children under rocks and hedges.

THIS horrid business was never sufficiently examined. The king endeavoured to throw the odium from himself, by saying that it was an oversight, committed in the hurry of subscribing

his royal mandates. But it may be asked, if a mandate from the throne was of so little consequence as to be signed without consideration; or whether ignorance or hurry, in such a case, can be admitted as an excuse? Various circumstances, however, and particularly the lenity shown to all concerned in this business, rendered this apology certainly defective. Whether his majesty's conscience ever admonished him relative to this business, or by what casuistry he might undertake to appease this monitor, does not appear; but the imputation of guilt stuck fast to his character, and his not punishing the perpetrators of the murder with due rigour, was, as Bishop BURNET himself allows, the greatest blot in his whole reign.

WITH respect to the inferior agents, they pretended, as has been already observed, to be nothing but mere machines, since, when conversing deliberately on the nature of the business, they soothed their consciences with the idea, that their officers were to be answerable for the treachery. The officers, on their part, to make the most favourable supposition, perhaps considered themselves also as reduced to machines by the king's authority: but, supposing that they did console themselves with this idea, why not fall on the Macdonalds at first? why feast upon their bounty and pledge their honour that no harm should happen, while it was their intention to murder them?

WITH minds full of gloomy ideas, suggested by reflecting on this horrid transaction, and hearing the circumstances confirmed

by those so nearly interested, we left the glen, and returned to the ferry-house at Ballichellish, and after resting our horses, and taking some refreshment, we crossed the loch, and proceeded along the banks of another arm, to Fort William, which is distant about fourteen miles from the ferry. The road is extremely good, and, being carried very near the loch, is pleasant. About half way, or rather more, on the opposite side of the water, we saw Inverscadle house, the present residence of MACDONALD of Glencoe. A few miles farther, the loch turns northward, forming nearly a right angle with its former direction; it here takes the name of Loch-Eil: near the head of it is a good house, which is the occasional residence of the laird of Lochiel, the chief of the formerly powerful clan of Camerons.

THE greatest part of this country, as well as many other parts of the highlands, has been converted into sheep farms, which has nearly depopulated them; the inhabitants having been obliged to emigrate to other countries, where, by engaging in manufactures, or a sea-faring life, they might be able to support their young families. It was pleasantly observed, by a gentleman from Inverness, who accompanied us on this part of our road, that the warriors of the mountains had been metamorphosed into sheep. That the mountains of this country are better adapted for sheep than black cattle, will not, I think, admit of a doubt. Under the sheep system they make a much better return, both to the tenant and the landlord; and furnish, in the wool of the sheep, a large fund for manufacture and commerce; but all

these advantages have, in my opinion, been more than counterbalanced by the effect which this system has produced on the population of the country. By joining together two, three, or more farms, and converting them into a sheep walk, twelve or sixteen tenants, with their families, are thrown out of their usual line of employment, the greatest number of whom are obliged to emigrate. When one man occupies the space which would be occupied by these, his private gains will by no means compensate for the public loss. To banish that hardy race by which our battles have been fought, and our fleets manned, must prove a national loss; it must likewise be a serious misfortune to the district to have its numbers greatly diminished; as it is certain that the riches of any country must be proportioned to the number of its people, if their industry be properly directed.

THE proprietor may perhaps think that all this is nothing to him, provided one man can give him a higher rent than ten or twenty. He can collect his rent with greater ease, and makes no account of the pleasure of communicating the means of subsistence and happiness to a number of his fellow-creatures; neither does he remember the assistance which their forefathers have given to his, in obtaining and defending those possessions from which they are now expelled. In making these observations, I speak of land proprietors in general; there are some exceptions which do honour to their country. Dr. Smith, to whom I am indebted for several observations on sheep walks, mentions the

following noble reply of a highland chieftain, who was advised to remove his people, and put his land under sheep. "Their forefathers," said he, "got and secured my estate by their blood and their lives, and I think they have a natural claim to a share of it."*

But a circumstance, in which the self-interest of the proprietor seems more nearly concerned, ought to be taken into the account; I mean the cultivation of his lands, to which a total stop is put by the present system, and, what is worse than this, the ground that has been rescued from wildness by the industry and labour of ages, will become a wilderness again. By means of sheep, rents may immediately be raised more rapidly, but will not admit of much farther progress: by cultivation they are advanced more slowly; but by a gradual progress will arrive at a much greater height. It ought likewise to be considered, that no country can become rich by pasturage alone. Pasturage must be conjoined with agriculture, and both of them with manufactures and commerce, before any great degree of prosperity can be attained. It would therefore be the interest of land proprietors to endeavour to unite all these advantages in one system, by encouraging small tenants as far as the nature of the land will allow, by which their estates would be not only improving in cultivation, and their rents progressively rising, but the country flourishing.

* Smith's Agricultural Survey of Argyleshire.

Dr. Smith mentions the following fact, which will strongly illustrate and corroborate these observations. A few years ago, a large estate in Argyleshire was converted into sheep walks, and let at an advanced rent to a few storemasters. From twenty-five to thirty of the former tenants, who could not dispose of themselves otherwise, were allowed one large farm among them all, and the rent of it advanced in the same proportion with those around it. The arable part of the farm, with as much more of it as was capable of cultivation, was divided into as many shares as there were families, and each set down upon his own lot. Here they fell to work with plough, spade, and mattock; occasionally uniting their forces to what they could not singly perform; at the same time, they joined their little money and credit to put a common stock of sheep upon the mountain, and employed a common shepherd to take care of them: their flock prospered, their fields produced abundantly, and were yearly becoming larger, by adding to the cultivated part a portion of what had formerly been waste. The men not only raised a sufficiency of food to serve their families, but some of them had also a surplus to spare; while their wives spun a considerable part of the wool produced by the sheep, and sold the yarn in the market. In short, they so improved the ground and their own circumstances together, that it was thought they could do well enough without the mountain; of which they were accordingly deprived, and their hopes of thriving vanished. The experiment however was fairly tried; and from 100 to 150 souls paid their rent, and derived their living from one farm, and probably with-

out any sensible diminution of the cattle which it was capable of maintaining, if no part of it had been tilled. Had the wisest politicians set themselves to contrive what plan would be most for the general interest of the country, perhaps they could not have devised a better than this, in which every part of the soil was applied to its proper use, and in which tillage, pasturage, manufacture, and commerce, were all united, so as to give each other their mutual aid. By such management as this, the hills might be covered with sheep, the plains with corn, the lands improved, and the people numerous and happy.*

From the time of introducing sheep walks, a very great change is said to have been observed, even in the dispositions of the people: till then, they showed in general little wish to emigrate. Round every fire, the entertainment of the evening was rehearsing tales of "the days of the years that are gone;" the actions of great men, and the warlike feats of their ancestors. By such conversation, the young mind, fired with the spirit of great examples, eagerly panted after an opportunity of being signalized, by surmounting difficulties, and by encountering dangers. Attachment to the chief, and jealousy of his honour, were reckoned primary virtues: these were inculcated at an early period of life, were strengthened by habit, and spread by example. The country is now thinned of inhabitants; the people have been forced to leave their native hills, dear to them from having been the residence of their ancestors from time immemorial; and

* Smith's Agricultural Survey of Argyleshire.

from having been the scenes of the happiest part of their life, when every thing could please. The generous spirit of the highlander is in a great measure extinct. Where in ten or fifteen families a hardy race was reared, ever ready to repel an enemy, and gain glory to their country, an opulent tacksman, with a solitary herd, occupy the lands.

> One only master grasps the whole domain,
> And half a tillage stints the smiling plain.*

While reflecting on these circumstances, we arrived at Fort William, which is situated at the eastern extremity of the loch, where it begins to turn northwards, to form Loch Iel. The town, which was formerly called Maryburgh, is a small inconsiderable place: there are some few tolerable houses, but the greater number seem very poor habitations. The number of inhabitants is about 500, most of whom have scarcely any employment except in the herring fishery, which is here inconsiderable. This place seems well situated for a woollen manufactory, which, if properly established, would be of great use to the country; would enhance the value of estates, and give employment to those who are driven from their farms by the introduction of sheep. Fort William is a great market for wool; many of the English manufacturers come hither to purchase this commodity, which they send immediately by sea to Liverpool and other ports. The communication from hence to the sea by Loch-

* Goldsmith.

Linnhe is very good: ships of any size can come up to Fort William. Here is likewise plenty of peat for fuel, and coals might be imported sufficiently cheap. Fish of various kinds are very plentiful, particularly herrings, haddocks, whitings, salmon, &c. These circumstances are all favourable to the establishment of a manufactory of coarse woollens: it only seems to want a beginning. Many of the highland gentlemen begin to look with less contempt on manufactures than fomerly, and several have sent their sons to Glasgow to be instructed in the muslin branch. Would it not be worth the attention of some of the proprietors in the neighbourhood of Fort William to send their sons to learn the woollen manufacture in Yorkshire, with a view to an establishment here?

THE fort is of a triangular form, with two bastions; it has fifteen twelve-pounders, some mortars, and a considerable armoury. It was built during the usurpation of Cromwell, by the advice and direction of General Monk,* and occupied much

* During the usurpation of Cromwell, many of the highland chiefs continued faithfully attached to the royal cause; these, however, one after another, made their peace with General Monk, excepting Sir Ewin Cameron of Lochiel, whom no intreaties could induce to abandon the cause of his king. Monk left no method unattempted to bribe him into submission, and held out proposals so very flattering, that he was importuned by many of his friends to accept of them; but he despised them all, and scorned to submit. Monk finding all his attempts ineffectual, resolved to plant this garrison, in order to keep the chief and his dependants in awe. Sir Ewin being informed of this design, thought the best plan would be to attack the enemy on their march from Inverness, as he imagined they would come from thence to erect the fort; but they arrived suddenly by sea, and disconcerted all his mea-

more ground at that time than it does at present, containing no fewer than 2,000 effective troops. Colonal Braym was the

sures. They brought with them such plenty of materials, and were in the vicinity of so much wood, that within one day after their landing the fort was erected, and the troops secured from danger.

The laird of Lochiel saw all their motions from a neighbouring eminence, and finding it impracticable to attack them with any probability of success, retired to a wood on the north side of Lochiel, called Achdalew, from whence he had a good view of his enemy at Inverlochy. He dismissed his followers, to remove their cattle farther from the enemy, and to furnish themselves with provisions, excepting thirty-eight choice men whom he kept as a guard. He had also spies about the garrison, who informed him of all their transactions. Five days after their arrival at Inverlochy, the governor dispatched 300 of his men in two vessels, which were to sail northward, and anchor on each side of the shore near Achdalew. Lochiel being informed that their design was to cut down his wood, and carry away his cattle, was determined to make them pay dear for every tree and hide; favoured by the woods, he came pretty close to the shore, where he saw their motions so distinctly, that he counted them as they came out of the ship, and found that the armed men exceeded 140, besides a number of workmen with axes and other instruments.

Having fully satisfied himself in this respect, he returned to his friends and called a council of war. The younger part of them were keen for attacking, but the older and more experienced, remonstrated against it, as a very rash and hazardous enterprize. Lochiel then asked two of the party, who had served with him in several sharp actions, if ever they saw him engage on terms so disadvantageous? They declared they never did. Animated by the ardour of youth, for he was then very young, he insisted in a short, but spirited, speech, that if they had any regard for their king, their chief, or their own honour, they would attack the English: "For," says he, "if every one kills his man, which I hope you will, I will answer for the rest." Upon this they cheerfully consented, but requested that he and his young brother, Allan, would stand at a distance from the danger. Lochiel could not hear with any patience this proposal with regard to himself, but commanded his brother, who was equally anxious to share the danger, to be bound to a tree, leaving a little boy to attend him; but he soon prevailed on the boy, by threats and entreaties, to disengage him, and ran to the conflict.

The Camerons being somewhat more than thirty in number, armed partly with muskets, and partly with bows, kept their pieces and arrows till their very

first governor, and the fort was then distinguished by the name of the "Garrison of Inverlochy." In the time of King William,

muzzles and points almost touched the breasts of their enemies: the very first fire killed about thirty: they immediately took their broad swords, and laid about with incredible fury. The English defended themselves with their muskets and bayonets with great bravery, but to little purpose. The combat was long and obstinate; at last the English gave way, and retreated towards the ship, with their faces towards the enemy, fighting with astonishing resolution. Lochiel, to prevent their flight, ordered two or three of his men to run before, and from behind a bush to make a noise, as if there was another party of highlanders stationed to intercept their retreat. This took so effectually, that they stopped, and, animated by rage, madness, and despair, renewed their fight with greater fury than ever, and wanted nothing but proper arms to make Lochiel repent of his stratagem. They were at last, however, forced to give way, and betake themselves to their heels; the Camerons pursued them chin deep in the sea. Of the English, 138 were found dead, while Lochiel only lost five men.

In this engagement, Lochiel himself had several wonderful escapes. In the retreat of the English, one of the strongest and bravest of the officers retired behind a bush, where he observed Lochiel pursuing alone, and darting upon him, thought himself sure of his prey. They met with equal fury; the combat was long doubtful. The English officer had by far the advantage in strength and size, but Lochiel exceeded him in nimbleness and activity, and forced the sword out of his hand; upon which his antagonist flew upon him like a tiger; they closed, and wrestled, till both fell on the ground in each other's arms. The English officer got above Lochiel, and pressed him hard; but stretching forth his neck, and attempting to disengage himself, Lochiel, who by this time had his hands at liberty, with his left hand seized him by the collar, and jumping at his extended throat, bit it with his teeth quite through, bringing away his mouthful, which he often afterwards said was *the sweetest bite he ever had in his life.* Immediately after the encounter, when continuing the pursuit, he found his men chin deep in the sea; he quickly followed them, and observing a man on the deck aiming his piece at him, plunged into the sea, and escaped so narrowly, that the hair on the back part of his head was cut, and a little of the skin taken off. Soon afterwards a similar attempt was made to shoot him, when his foster brother threw himself before him, and received the shot in his breast, preferring the life of his chief to his own.——Appendix to Pennant's Tour.

In this way did the bold and resolute chief harass the new garrison in his neighbourhood, making them often pay dear for their depredations on his property, till at

it was rebuilt on a less scale, with stone and lime instead of earth. In the year 1746, it stood a siege of five weeks, which commenced on the 24th of February, and was raised on the 3d of April following, with the loss of only six men killed, and twenty-four wounded. It is, however, by no means a place of strength, and for several years past has been garrisoned only by a few invalids. Some time ago, about a fourth part of the wall was undermined, and swept away by the river Nevis, which runs by it. It has ever since been going to ruin, and there seems little probability of its being repaired. Captain COCHRANE is the commanding officer, to whom I had a letter of introduction, but he was so much indisposed that we could not see him.

SEVERAL of the inhabitants of the town had been attending the remains of a lady to the place of interment, a few miles distant, and we saw many of them return more than half seas over. We found our inn wretched beyond any thing we had met with, they had neither corn nor hay; the attendance was bad, and the beds abominable. Indeed, I found mine so uncomfortable, that I was glad to rise at three o'clock in the morning. I took a walk to the burial ground, a little out of the town, and meditated among the tombs for near an hour. I then returned, and roused my companion. I am ashamed to say that this inn was kept by an Englishman.

last, finding his country impoverished, and his people almost ruined, he listened to the repeated solicitations which were made to him, and submitted on terms of his own dictating. Monk immediately wrote him a letter of thanks, which was dated at Dalkeith, the 5th of June, 1655.

JULY 27. Immediately after breakfast we left Fort William, taking the road to Fort Augustus, and travelling along the banks of the Lochy, a considerable river, which runs out of a lake of the same name. About a mile from the fort, and close to the Lochy on our left, we passed the ruins of Inverlochy castle, which has once been a place of considerable strength and magnitude. It is a quadrangular building, with round towers at the angles, like the castle at Inverary, and is nearly 100 feet every way within the walls, which are nine feet in thickness; and the whole building, including the towers, covers above an acre and a half of ground. At the gate between the south and east towers, are the remains of the draw-bridge. Three of the towers have been provided with sally-ports, very well contrived, and close to the arrow holes which flanked them. To the lowest story of each tower is a door, leading to it from the inner area of the castle, and a winding stair up to the second story through the middle of the wall. Every tower is built with loop-holes on each side, so contrived as to flank and defend the whole curtain of the rampart as far as the next tower. These loop or arrow holes are well contrived to allow the archers a free aim, and defend them at the same time from any weapons without. The western tower is called *Cumming's Tower*. It is said that there was formerly a thriving town called Inverlochy, adjacent to this castle, which some of the old historians describe as the emporium of the west of Scotland; but of this there are no other vestiges than some paved ways, which are said to have been streets.

From the name of the western tower, and other circumstances, it seems probable that this castle was occupied by the Cummings in the time of Edward I. of England, when this clan was at its zenith of power; and, previous to that period, by the Thanes of Lochaber, particularly by Bancho, predecessor of the race of Stewart. A little below the castle there is a pleasant walk, which still retains the name of Bancho's walk.* There is a tradition that this castle was once a royal residence, and that the famous league between Charles the Great of France and Achaius king of Scots, was signed here on the part of the Scotch monarch about the end of the eighth century.

But I fear the reader will think that too much time has been already taken up in describing this monument of human industry, which a few ages will probably obliterate, while there is in the immediate neighbourhood a work of nature so stupendous, as to cause this puny effort of man to dwindle into nothing. Opposite to the castle on the right, Benevis, the highest hill in Britain,† elevates his rugged front far above the neighbouring mountains, his summit and broken sides being covered with eternal snows.

As our time did not permit us to ascend this mountain, I shall subjoin the account given of it by Mr. Fraser, minister of Kilmalie, in his Statistical Report of that parish.

* See the Statistical Account of the Parishes of Kilmalie and Kilmanivaig.

† The perpendicular height of this mountains is 4,370 feet.

"THIS hill is easily ascended by a ridge towards the west, about a quarter of a mile up the river Nevis, from the house where the proprietor resides. There is good pasture for sheep here, as well as on the surrounding hills, for a great way up. The view is entirely confined within Glenevis, till you have ascended about 500 yards perpendicular. Indeed, the valley, though confined, presents an agreeable prospect. The vista is beautified by a diversity of bushes, shrubs, and birch-woods, the habitations of the roe, besides many little verdant spots; a neat rural mansion, encircled by a flourishing plantation; a river at the bottom of the vale, which, after having been broken by a heap of mis-shapen stones, glides away in a clear stream; and, wandering through woods, vales, and rocks, loses itself in the sea at Fort William. To heighten the pleasure of this charming view, the sea and shores present themselves. This is such a prospect as must expand the heart, and delight the spectator attached to the charms of nature and rural scenes; and recal to mind the days of old, when princes are said to have tended their herds amidst the beauties of Arcadia.

"UPON ascending higher, the prospect opens to the south-west, and you behold the Straits of Corran, the islands of Shuna and Lismore; the south-east part of Mull, together with the islands of Sucle and Kerrera, on the opposite coast of Argyle. At this altitude two elevated hills make their appearance over these isles, which, by their shape, declare themselves to be the *Paps of Jura*. Turning to the west, and inclining a

little towards the north, you see the small isles, particularly Rum and Canna, and the sound that separates them from Skye; beyond all these the Cullin hills, which form the west part of Skye itself. Here the prospect to the east is obstructed by the upper part of the mountain; but still every part of Lochiel can be easily observed, over which the whole horizon is surprizingly equal. One uninterrupted range of hills, which rise one behind another, presents no particular object worth distinguishing.

"FROM the altitude of 600 or 700 yards upward, there is no vegetation at all, but merely rocks and stony parts, without even the mixture of earth. These parts are called *Scarnachs*. They are quite flat, and may be walked over without any detriment: upon entering them, some excellent springs of water are to be found. Here one is deceived with the appearance of a high part, which seems to be the top of the hill: the deception returns, and is repeated twice or thrice before you reach the summit, which is rather flat, and bears some resemblance to the segment of an arch held in a horizontal position; the left side appears to be the highest. Hence you walk with ease over the flat weather-beaten stones that lie close to each other, with a gentle declivity, and form an easy pavement to the foot. You now come all at once to the brink of a precipice on the north-east side of the mountain, which is almost perpendicular, and certainly not less than 400 or 500 yards deep, perhaps more, as it appears to exceed the third part of the whole height of the hill. A stranger is astonished at the sight of this

dreadful rock, which has a quantity of snow lodged in its bosom through the whole year. The sound of a stone thrown over the cliff to the bottom, cannot be heard when it falls, so that the height of the precipice cannot be ascertained by that easy experiment.

"LOOKING to the east, Loch Laggan appears, and to the south-east, Loch Rannoch in Perthshire: but Loch Tay being covered by the land cannot be seen, nor Loch Erracht. If you have a good map in company, lay it here in a horizontal position, and placing your eye over that part of it where Benevis is delineated, turn it till the natural position of Loch Rannoch coincides with its image on the map, and you will then have before your eye a true representation of the objects in view.

"IN this manner you will be able to discover the names of those high mountains which rise above the rest; viz. Cruachan in Glenorchay; Shichallion, Ben-more, and Ben-lawers in Perthshire; Bhillan in Glencoe; Ben-more in the island of Mull; Bennanis, and other hills in Ross-shire. The whole of the great glen of Scotland, from Fort George to the Sound of Mull, is at once in view, comprehending the fresh water lakes of Ness, Oich, and Lochy, and all the course of the two rivers, Ness and Lochy, from their source to the places where they enter the salt water, running in opposite directions, the one north-east and the other south-west. One sees at once across the island eastward toward the German sea, and westward to the Atlantic ocean.

"NATURE here appears on a majestic scale, and the vastness of the prospect engages one's whole attention. Particular objects are but few in number, but they are of no common dimensions.

"JUST over the opening of the Sound, at the south-west corner of Mull, Colonsay rises out of the sea like a shade of mist, at the distance of more than ninety miles. Shuna and Lismore appear like small spots of rich verdure, and though near thirty miles distant, seem quite under the spectator. The low parts of Jura cannot be discerned, nor any parts of Isla; far less the coast of Ireland, which some have pretended to see from the top of Benevis. Such, however, is the wide extent of view from the summit of this mountain, that it reaches 170 miles from the horizon of the sea, at the Murray Firth on the north-east, to the island of Colonsay on the south-west.

"THE hills on each side of the lakes and rivers mentioned above, opening like huge walls and ramparts, yield a curious variety of agreeable wild prospects; the vast windings whereof rather diversify the scene than obstruct the eye: the extremities of the hills declining gradually from their several summits, open into valleys, affording variegated views of woods, rivers, plains, and lakes. The torrents of water which here and there tumble down the precipices, and in many places break through the cracks and cliffs of the rocks, arrest the eye, and suspend the mind in awful astonishment. In a word, the number, the extent, and the variety of the several prospects, the irregular

wildness of the hills, of the rocks, and of the precipices, the noise of rivulets and of torrents breaking and foaming among the stones in such a diversity of shapes and colours, the shining smoothness of the seas and lakes, the rapidity and rumbling of the rivers falling from shelve to shelve, and forcing their streams through a multitude of obstructions, the serenity of the azure skies, and the splendour of the glorious sun riding in the brightness of his majesty, have something so charmingly wild and romantic, and so congenial to the contemplative mind, as surpasses all description, and presents a scene of which the most fervid imagination can scarcely form an idea.

"THE traveller who is so callous as to behold all this, and not feel the greatness and majesty of the ALMIGHTY ARCHITECT impressed upon his heart, must indeed be strangely void of sense, of taste, and of sentiment.

"FEW persons can perform a journey to the top of Benevis, and make proper observations going and returning, in less than seven hours; and still fewer, without feeling in their limbs the effects of the fatigue for a day or two afterwards."

"VIEWING this majestic mountain at a humble distance, and continuing our ride along the banks of the Lochy, we came to a dreary moor, and crossed the Spean, a rapid torrent running between high and perpendicular rocks, by a bridge remarkable for its height, and which is therefore properly called the High-bridge: two of the arches are ninety five feet high. This bridge was built

by General Wade, to form a communication with the country. These public works, as Mr. Pennant observes, were at first very disagreeable to the old chieftains, and lessened their influence greatly; for by admitting strangers among them, their clans were taught that the lairds were not the greatest men in the world: but they had another reason for this dislike, which was much more solid. This country was a den of thieves; and as long as they had their waters, their torrents, and their bogs in a state of nature, the chiefs made their excursions, and could plunder and retreat with their booty in full security: and so little were the laws regarded in this part of the country, that till after the late rebellion, no stop could be put to this infamous practice. The contribution called *Black-mail* was publickly levied in the most barefaced manner, by several of the plundering chieftains, over a vast extent of country; whoever paid it regularly, had their cattle insured, but those who dared to refuse were sure to suffer. Among these freebooters, Rob Roy, Macgregor, and Barrisdale were particularly distinguished. Of the first some account has been given.* Indeed, the highlanders at that time esteemed the open theft of cattle, or making a *creach*, by no means dishonourable: the young men considered it as a piece of gallantry, by which they recommended themselves to their mistresses.† The opening of roads, and stationing of soldiers at the chain of forts, had, however, the desired effect; and these lawless plunderers were at last rendered peaceable and good subjects.

* Page 63. † Pennant's Tour.

This chain consists of Fort-George on the eaſt, Fort-Augustus in the middle, and Fort-William on the west. These forts were originally of consequence in a military view; at present the chief services derived from them, and particularly Fort-William and Fort-Augustus, have been preserving the country from robberies: for this purpose, detachments are occasionally sent to different parts of the country. A dangerous banditti, not more than fifteen or sixteen years ago, infested this part of the country: the military from each fort pursued them among the caves and fastnesses of the mountains. They consisted of a set of thieves, deserters and murderers leagued together, to the great terror and annoyance of an extensive district. The ringleaders were at length taken by the military parties; some of them were transported, and the rest hanged.* Since that period the country has been perfectly safe.

Another benefit which has been derived from these forts, and the roads connected with them, has been the civilization of the highlands. The English garrisons which have successively occupied the forts, and the number of travellers to whom the military roads have given access, have undoubtedly induced the example of gentler and more polished manners, and have assisted in banishing those exclusive prejudices and partialities in favour of an individual superior, and of every thing attached to him, which had acquired such ferocity under the system of clanship. Besides, by these means, the English language has been much

* Lettice's Tour.

improved; we had often occasion to remark, in our journey through the highlands, that those who could speak English, spoke it not only without the Scotticisms, but without the tone of the lowlanders: this was particularly evident in the line of the forts; both at Fort-Augustus and Inverness, the language is spoken as correctly, and with as much purity, as in any part of England.

Soon after passing High-bridge, we entered a dreary and barren country, called Lochaber, which is very thinly inhabited, and the habitations we did see are as wretched as can be conceived. A little hut built with sticks, and covered with sods, with a small hole in the side to supply the place of a window; yet in these cabins, which are extremely small, six or eight persons often live, or rather exist.

The chief produce of this country is black cattle, for which it has been long famed; these are in general sold to the English graziers and cattle jobbers, several of whom visit this country annually. But though the flat ground is stocked with black cattle, the hills begin to be covered with sheep.*

* It was on one of the wildest mountains in this wild country, that the Pretender erected his standard in the year 1745, having landed, for the conquest of the British empire, with seven officers, and arms for two thousand men. He immediately, on his landing, applied to Cameron of Lochiel, who on seeing him arrive in a manner so unprotected, entreated him to abandon an enterprize for which he was so ill prepared, and pointed out the many difficulties he had to encounter: upon this the young adventurer grew warm, and began to reproach him with ingratitude to his

THE peasants till small patches of ground near their huts, where they sow some oats, which return little more than the seed. They likewise cultivate the potatoe with tolerable success, and none of them forget to cultivate a little barley, to be manufactured into their favourite beverage, whisky.

ABOUT twelve miles from Fort-William, we obtained the first sight of Loch-Lochy, a very fine fresh-water lake, the length of which is about fourteen miles, and its breadth from one to two. The mountains on each side are very steep, and in some parts covered with wood.

NOT far from the middle of this lake is Letter Findlay, fourteen miles distant from Fort-William, a poor house, where we found very indifferent entertainment. While our horses were refreshing, we walked on the banks of the loch, and perceiving a boat we rowed across the water and back again: its breadth is here about a mile and a half, but the depth of that part we crossed did not any where appear to exceed four or five yards. The hills on each side of the lake afford fine pasturage for sheep. We pursued our journey along the southern bank; the road from its first approach to the lake is continued about eight miles along its banks, but is very bad, being frequently damaged by heaps of stones brought down from the mountains by rapid torrents that

sovereign and a breach of honour. This was the right key to the heart of a highland chieftain: he told him that he would follow his fortunes to the last, and immediately took a tender and affecting leave of his family, whom he supposed he should never more behold.—The event of this wild project is well known.

Inveraray Castle

fall down their sides during heavy rains, and which must at those times render the roads quite impassable.

Soon after we left Loch Lochy, we entered Glengary, a narrow glen bounded by mountains wooded to their bases. Here we met with a small but beautiful lake, called Loch Oich, which is about three or four miles long; its banks slope beautifully into the water, forming a number of little bays, and there are some pretty little tufted islands.

On the opposite side are the ruins of Invergary castle, which was burnt in the year 1745. It has once been a large building, and is now a very picturesque object: near to it is a modern mansion, the residence of Macdonnel of Glengary, with a formal avenue of trees down to the lake.

After leaving Loch Oich, we ascended a rising ground, from whence the head of Loch Ness, with its rough rocky banks, variegated with different tints, appeared to great advantage. On the northern side of the lake near its head, is Fort-Augustus, situated between the river Oich, which runs from the lake of that name, and the Tarff, issuing from Loch Tarff, to be afterwards described.

Near Fort-Augustus is a village, where we met with a very comfortable inn, and good stabling for our horses, considering that it was a highland stable: for in all the stables we had met

with in this country, there are no separate stalls, which is extremely inconvenient to the horses, and even dangerous. This might be remedied at a trifling expense; but the fact is, that the inhabitants being accustomed to stables of this kind, do not perceive the inconvenience of them.

We had an excellent dinner, after which my companion being in a merry mood, by way of jesting with the girl who waited on us, asked for a dessert of fruit; but both he and I were surprized to see her return in a few minutes with a plate of very fine gooseberries, just gathered in the garden of the inn.

The evening being fine, we went to take a view of the fort and neighbouring country. Fort-Augustus is a regular fortification, with four bastions, and barracks capable of accommodating 400 soldiers, with proper lodgings for the officers. It is a very neat looking place, and a surrounding plantation gives it very much the appearance of an English country seat: it is garrisoned by invalids, and supplied with provisions from Inverness by a sloop of sixty tons. Though the fortification is in good repair, it is by no means a place of strength, being commanded by the surrounding hills almost on every side. It was taken by the rebels in the year 1746, but was deserted by them after they had demolished what they could. This fort has contributed its share towards the civilization of the country: it seems likewise an excellent situation for a woollen manufactory.

JULY 28th. Having breakfasted at an early hour, we left Fort-Augustus, crossed the river Tarff by a wooden bridge, and ascended a high hill on the other side, from whence we had a fine view of Loch Ness stretched out beneath us, at the head of which Fort-Augustus appeared more like a modern peaceable mansion, than a place of defence. Proceeding a little farther, we lost sight of Loch Ness, but when we expected to enter a dreary mountainous country, we were agreeably surprized to find ourselves in a pleasant sequestered valley, through which a rivulet winds its rapid way into the loch; the banks are richly clothed with birch, and this valley is on every side surrounded by high mountains. On leaving this scene, we ascended the mountain *Seechuimin*, or Cummin's Seat, on the top of which we saw several small but beautiful lakes, that would have formed desirable ornaments to any gentleman's grounds. One larger than the rest is Loch Tarff, about three miles in circumference, with several small islands tufted with trees, or covered with brushwood or purple heath. This lake abounds with char. It is, as was before observed, the source of the river Tarff, which conveys to Loch Ness the waters of this lake, as well as several small streams that join it in its passage. The sides of these mountains afford excellent pasturage for the numerous flocks of sheep we observed upon them. From this mountain we descended very gradually along a barren moor, where we saw several of the carts or sledges of the country, employed in carrying peats; they have no wheels, but two arms projecting behind, which drag upon the ground, the horse bearing up the other end; they are very rude,

and badly contrived, for the horse has not only the cart to drag along, but part of the weight to bear. These carts or sledges, though common here, are not peculiar to this district: we observed them in several parts of the highlands, and a sketch of one is given in the fore-ground of the view of Glencroe. The harness in this country consists of a bridle made of the twisted twigs of birch; a stick about a yard long put under the horse's tail, and tied with twigs for a crupper: the saddle is a pad made of coarse sacking, tied with twisted birch twigs, or hair ropes.

As we proceeded, the country became extremely romantic, rugged mountains of granite presenting themselves in every direction, whose red sides were laid bare by the constant torrents rolling down them, all the soil having been washed away into the plains: this is the case with many of the mountains in this country: and in process of time they will consist entirely of naked rocks. The mountains of Morven, which in the days of Fingal and Ossian were covered with soil and wood, are now in a great measure denuded of both.*

* In this neighbourhood, in the manor of Badenoch, were very extensive *shealings* or grazings, to which the inhabitants used to remove in the beginning of the summer with their wives and children, and the whole of their cattle, in a truly patriarchal style. It was no uncommon thing to meet whole families going with the children in baskets or creels on each side of the horse, or often a child in one creel, and a stone in the other, to keep up the equilibrium: here, in temporary turf huts, they lived with their herds and flocks, and during the fine season made butter and cheese. Such dairy houses are common in most mountainous countries: Mr. Pennant describes similar ones in Glen-Tilt and Jura; they are by no means uncommon in Wales, where they are called *Hafodtai*, or Summer-houses; those on the Swiss Alps were

After having travelled a few miles among these mountains, we crossed the river, or, as it is called, the water of Foyers, and rode by its side through a valley as romantic as could be conceived. The banks of the river, as well as the sides of the mountains, were covered with weeping birch; here and there the mountains presented their naked fronts, from which huge fragments of rock have been hurled down to the bottom. After emerging from this valley, at the distance of about thirteen miles from Fort-Augustus, we again came in sight of Loch-Ness, and entering an avenue of weeping birch-trees, we soon came to two rude pillars, on the wall on our left hand, from whence we had a bird's-eye view of the furious cataract called the Fall of Foyers. This view of it is extremely striking; but as we wished to contemplate this celebrated fall to more advantage, we continued our ride through the wood of weeping birch, to the half-way house, called the General's Hut, situated on the banks of Loch-Ness, nearly about the midway, and commanding a delightful view of the lake.

When General Wade was superintending the military roads,

called Sennes. When the grass in these sheallings in Badenoch became scarce, they returned to their principal farms where it had grown during their absence; here they remained, while they had sufficiency of pasturage, and then in the same manner went back to their sheallings, observing this ambulatory course during the seasons of vegetation. When their small crops were ripe, all hands descended from the hills, and continued on the farms till the same was cut and stacked, when they often returned to their sheallings, and remained, till driven from thence by snow.

Stat. Account of Boleskine and Abertarff.

he had a small house built here, which was afterwards used as an inn: the present public house is situated very near the place, and is still called the General's Hut. Having left our horses here, we were conducted by our landlord to the falls.

We first visited the upper fall, which is about a mile and a half from the house, and nearly half a mile above the fall which we had seen from the road. Here the river Foyers being confined on each side by steep rocks, precipitates itself with great velocity, forming a very fine cataract. A little below the fall an arch has been thrown by the proprietor, Fraser of Foyers, from which the fall is seen: but in order to obtain a proper view of it, we, with some difficulty, scrambled down the steep banks to the rocks below, from whence we beheld this romantic scene in perfection. The bridge and rocks formed a fine frame, or foreground, behind which, at the distance of perhaps twenty yards, appeared the first part of the fall; the second, and most important break, was a few yards nearer, and the lowest almost under the arch.

Our guide was present when very accurate measurements were taken of these falls; the following particulars are therefore put down from his information.

From the arch of the bridge to the surface of the water, after the lowest part of the fall - -	200 feet.
Height of the fall - - - - - - - - - -	70 feet.

Upper Fall of Fiers.

Published January 1st 1800, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.

The bridge was built about twelve years ago, before which time the only passage over this torrent was a rude alpine bridge, consisting of some sticks thrown over the rocks, and covered with turf. It was crossed by the peasantry on foot, but must certainly have turned giddy the steadiest head unaccustomed to such scenes. About three years before the present bridge was built, a neighbouring farmer, on his way home from Inverness, had called at the General's Hut, to shelter himself from the inclemency of the storm, and drive out the invading cold by reinforcing the garrison in the stomach. Here he met with some old acquaintance, with whom he conversed of former times, without observing the frequency of the circulating glass. The snow continued to fall in thick flakes, and they were sitting by a comfortable fire: at last, when the fumes of the whisky had taken possession of his brain, and raised his spirits to no ordinary pitch, he determined to go home. When he came to this place, having been accustomed to cross the rude bridge on foot, he habitually took this road, and forced his horse over it. Next morning he had some faint recollection of the circumstance, though the seeming impossibility of the thing made him suspect that it was a dream; but as the ground was covered with snow, it was very easy to convince himself: he accordingly went, and when he perceived the tracks of his horse's feet over the bridge, he was so much terrified at the danger he had escaped, that he fell ill, and died shortly afterwards.

In our way to the lower fall, our guide shewed us a cave of considerable size, near the river, where the freebooters used to shelter themselves in turbulent times. There was a way of escape towards the water, should the main entry be discovered.

Our next object was the lower fall; when we came to the pillars before mentioned, we left the road, and went down the side of the hill. The descent to the point of view is difficult, but we were amply repaid for our trouble.

The following particulars are put down from the information of our guide:

From the top of the rocks, where the small figures are represented, to the surface of the water - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	470 feet.
Height of the fall in one continued stream - -	207 feet.
From the place where the water appears as if bursting through the rock to the beginning of the uninterrupted fall - - - - - - - - -	5 feet.
So that the height of the fall may properly be called - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	212 feet.

Down this precipice the river rushes with a noise like thunder into the abyss below, forming an unbroken stream as white as snow: from the violent agitation arises a spray, which envelops the spectator, and spreads to a considerable distance.

Lower Fall at Fiers.

Published January 1st 1800, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.

THE following beautiful description of this fall was written with a pencil by Burns, as he was standing by it:

Among the heathy hills and ragged woods
The roaring Foyers pours his mossy floods;
'Till full he dashes on the rocky mounds,
Where, thro' a shapeless breach, his stream resounds.
As high in air the bursting torrents flow,
As deep recoiling surges foam below,
Prone down the rock the whitening sheet descends,
And viewless Echo's ear astonish'd rends.
Dim seen, through rising mists and ceaseless show'rs,
The hoary cavern wide-surrounding lowers;
Still thro' the gap the struggling river toils,
And still below the horrid cauldron boils.

THIS is undoubtedly one of the highest falls in the world, and the quantity of water is sufficient to give it consequence. The scene is awful and grand, and I suppose that any person who has once beheld it will readily agree, that it is worth while to travel from Fort-William to this place merely to see this fall. Though an immense body of water falls down the celebrated cascade of Niagara, yet its height is not much more than half the height of this, being only 140 feet.*

ON the sides of the glen the elegant *Alchimilla alpina* grows in abundance.

* Morse's American Geography.

HAVING satisfied our curiosity respecting these celebrated falls, we returned to the General's Hut; here we found our landlord and guide, who had left us while Mr. Watts was making his sketch, acting the part of an ostler; and after he had done the needful to our horses, he went into the house, and commenced cook. When we first arrived here, we found him working in his garden, so that he had almost as many occupations as Mr. Elwes' huntsman: we were not, however, disposed to call him an idle dog. While our dinner was preparing, we sauntered about the banks of Loch-Ness. This lake is twenty-two miles in length, and from one to two and a half in breadth; the depth in the middle is from 60 to 135 fathoms. It sometimes rises from eight to ten feet perpendicular above low-water mark, from continued rains or melting snow. It is so deep even at the sides, excepting at the points of Torr and Foyers, that a ship of the line might sail within her length of the shore, from end to end, on either side. The high hills by which it is inclosed on the north and south, present, to a person sailing up the lake, a pleasant view of wood, pasture, rivers and rivulets, broken steeps, and irregular precipices. This large body of water is plentifully stocked with fish; trouts of three or four pounds weight are frequently taken out of it; and salmon often pass the Cruives in the river Ness, when the water is high.

THE water of this lake is esteemed so salubrious, that people frequently come or send thirty miles for it, though it certainly possesses no mineral impregnation, but is extremely soft and pure.

It never freezes in the severest winters: this fact, which is well ascertained, was doubted by Dr. Johnson, though it is nothing different from what takes place in all lakes that are large and deep. The reason why it never freezes is its great depth; though the above-mentioned author, who was a better philologist than natural philosopher, asserts that this circumstance can have little share in its exemption. It will not, however, require any intricate investigation to explain the reason why deep lakes are more difficult to freeze than shallow collections of water, even of much greater extent. The cold air in winter, which passes over the surface of the water, robs it of its heat, and condenses it; in consequence of its specific gravity being increased, it falls down to the bottom of the lake, and its place is supplied by the warmer and more rarefied water rising from below; this change of place will go on, till the whole of the water arrive nearly at the freezing point, before it can possibly freeze: and where lakes are very deep, the winter season is not sufficient to produce this effect. The water, when taken out of the lake, freezes very easily, as might be expected from its purity.

This lake is often violently agitated by winds, which sweep with impetuosity from the west to east; the current of air being confined and increased in its passage through the great glen; this frequently causes very large waves, which break violently against the rugged banks: but like some other large lakes, its waters have sometimes been greatly agitated when there were no ex-

traordinary currents in the atmosphere that could ruffle its surface.

THE water of this lake was affected in a very surprizing manner on the first of November, 1755, the time at which the great earthquake was felt at Lisbon, and at the same time that Loch Lomond was so violently agitated, as was formerly mentioned. The water rose rapidly, and flowed up the lake from east to west with amazing impetuosity, the waves being carried more than two hundred yards up the river Oich, breaking on its banks near three feet above the level of the river; it continued ebbing and flowing for the space of an hour: at the end of which time, a wave much larger than the rest came up the river, broke on the north side, and overflowed the bank to the extent of thirty feet. A boat near the General's Hut, loaden with brushwood, was thrice driven ashore, and twice carried back again; the last time, the rudder was broken, the wood forced out, and the boat filled with water, and left on shore. Not the smallest agitation was felt on land.*

LEAVING the General's Hut, we proceeded along the romantic banks of the lake, through an avenue of birch trees; which, with the different views of the lake that constantly presented themselves, rendered the ride delightful. About a quarter of a mile beyond the inn, is the burial place where the church for-

* Pennant.

merly stood, but which has been removed a little above Foyers, for the greater convenience of the inhabitants.

On the opposite side of Loch-ness, we saw the ruins of Castle Urquhart on a steep promontory projecting into the lake, a pleasant and romantic situation, commanding a fine view of this expanse of water from one end to the other. This venerable remnant of antiquity was once a place of great strength and considerable size. The lake washes the east wall, and the other three sides were fortified with strong ramparts, a ditch, and a drawbridge; within the walls were buildings and accommodations for five or six hundred men.* This castle was a royal fort, and was granted by James IV. in 1509, with the estate and lordship of Urquhart, to the laird of Grant, in whose family they still continue. For some time before this grant was made, the lairds of Grant possessed the castle and lands of Urquhart as chamberlains of the crown. Abercromby, the historian, observes, that king Edward I. of England reduced this fort in 1303, and inhumanly put to the sword Alexander Bois and his garrison, who had bravely defended it. According to the same author, Robert Lauder, governor of this castle, maintained it in 1334 against the English, then in the cause of Edward Baliol.

The rocks from the general's hut for a mile or two along the road, are of the pudding-stone kind, like those of Oban, but the pebbles are in general smaller, and the cement appears to be a kind of lava of a reddish hue.

* Stat. Account of Urquhart and Glen-moriston.

On leaving the beautiful avenue of birch, we entered one of hazel, which continued some miles, and which, as Dr. Johnson observes, reminded us very strongly of an English lane: on these trees were great quantities of nuts. Near the end of the lake, we passed on our right the church and village of Dores; here the lake empties itself by the river Ness, which runs into the sea near Inverness.

From Fort-William we had been travelling all the way, in the great glen which divides Scotland into two parts, and which, as the reader must have observed, is nearly filled with lakes. This great opening is called Glen-more, or the great glen; sometimes *Glenn-more-na-h' alabin,* or the great glen of Caledonia. It will be scarcely necessary to point out the public advantages which would arise from opening a communication by water between the Murray Firth at Inverness, and the branch of the western ocean which comes up to Fort-William. This seems nearly completed by nature: for the distance taken in a straight line is little more than fifty miles; and of this, the navigable lakes Loch-Ness, Loch-Oich, and Loch-Lochy, make up near forty. The whole length of this line is thus stated by Mr. Knox:

	MILES.		MILES.
Loch-Lochy, - -	10	River Lochy, - -	7
—— Oich, - -	4	—— Oich, - -	5
—— Ness, - - -	22	—— Ness, - -	8
		Land, - - - - -	2
	36		22

So that thirty-six miles are navigable on a grand scale, twenty miles consist of rivers which might be rendered navigable by means of cuts, and two miles of land. The expence of a canal in these twenty-two miles, seventy feet wide, and ten deep, he estimates at 164,000*l.*; no great sum when compared with the advantages which would result from it. It would not perhaps pay private adventurers at first, but might be undertaken by government, and would be productive of great national benefit.

I SHALL take the liberty to point out some of the most obvious advantages of such a communication, partly from Knox's View of the British Empire, partly from communications on that subject in Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account, and partly from the ideas that occurred to myself.

THE length of navigation saved in a voyage from Inverness to the sound of Mull, would be above - - - - -	200 miles.
Ditto from Buchanness to ditto - -	127 miles.
Ditto to vessels keeping the outside of the Orkneys, at seasons when the Pentland Firth cannot be navigated - - -	187 miles.

VESSELS of nine feet water might pass with the greatest security from Inverness to Fort-William in three days; and small craft much sooner. The voyage by the Pentland Firth is upon an average two weeks, and sometimes two months.

WERE this line of navigation opened to the great western fisheries, and to the Hebrides, a new species of traffic and commercial intercourse would immediately arise; markets of reciprocal benefit would enliven both shores, and give employment to all those who prefer useful industry to indigence and idleness, of whom there are many thousands in this remote district.

NOR is it the highlands only that require the aid of a communication between the two seas. Due east from Inverness, the Murray Firth washes a coast of 105 miles to Buchanness, the eastern extremity of Aberdeenshire.

THE climate along the banks of the Murray Firth is soft, and the soil excellent, as appears from the exports of grain to Glasgow and the Hebrides. This country also abounds in iron and lead: the sea is bountiful in white fish and salmon, particularly the latter. Besides the maritime districts on the Murray Firth, there are sundry extensive vallies which penetrate far back into the country, winding beautifully amidst lofty mountains, to whose heathy appearance the verdant plains form an agreeable contrast.

BUT these shores and vallies, though thus abounding with people disposed for industry, and though amply supplied in the produce of land and water, labour under a natural misfortune. A ridge of hills called the Grampian mountains, forms an almost impassable chain from Aberdeen to Loch-Lomond. This chain,

nearly crossing the kingdom from sea to sea, cuts off the northern counties from all inland communication with the south and west during winter; nor do the narrow steep passes admit of the conveyance of goods even in summer.

ALL mercantile intercourse with the west and south-west parts of the kingdom must be therefore carried on by the long, the tedious, and very hazardous navigation by the Pentland Firth; and all vessels passing to and from the herring and white fisheries to the Hebrides, must also hazard the same navigation; though in winter, the season of the large herrings, and the most proper time for curing, even this passage is almost impracticable.

THE same inconvenience attends the inhabitants of the west highlands, in procuring from the east coast those supplies of grain and meal, which their native mountains do not afford in sufficient plenty for half the inhabitants, and which Ireland has sometimes denied, and may in future deny them.

ALL ships from Ireland and the west coast of England, bound for the east coast, for Holland, or the Baltic, could perform their voyage in at least a third less time than now, and with much greater safety. In like manner all the West-India and American traders from the east of Scotland, and the north-east coast of England, could avoid the circuitous and dangerous navigation by the Pentland Firth, and in time of war could rendezvous at Inverness or Fort-William, protected by strong forts, and harbours

that may be justly reckoned among the safest and most capacious in the kingdom. Besides, a frigate or two stationed in the Murray Firth, between Peterhead and Fort-George, together with one or two between the sound of Mull and the coast of Ireland, would afford greater protection to our trade in those quarters, than many times the number at present, when the navigation by the north about is so extensive and scattered. A variety of other circumstances might be mentioned to show the utility of this navigation, which sooner or later will, it is to be hoped, be opened. It is a work which nature has evidently intended and almost completed, and would certainly be the most important object for commercial enterprize that ever was undertaken by Great Britain.

From the failure of crops which frequently happen through a long continuance of cold and wet weather, the inhabitants of this neighbourhood have sometimes been reduced to the greatest distress: this, however, since the introduction of potatoes has not happened, and was this communication by water opened, and proper markets established at Fort-Augustus and Fort-William, it could scarcely occur.

In the year 1783, a scarcity of this kind was prevented by government, and the benevolent exertions of mercantile gentlemen at Inverness. Oatmeal had risen to an enormous price, but was by importation reduced nearly to the average standard. Near

the end of the last century, the situation of this country was very different; the people were left to their own exertions. One crop having failed through the inclemency of the season, they had no resource for seed, but the damaged grain of their own growth. This occasioned the failure of a second and a third crop. During this scarcity, it is well known that several families inhabiting a place called Clunes, in the neighbourhood of Inverness, subsisted for two years on the herbs they could collect in summer, and gathered the seed of the wild mustard, with which their fields abounded; this was ground into meal, and afforded them a scanty subsistence in winter; but the third crop failing, they could subsist no longer. They accordingly deserted their habitations in a body, and coming down to the plain below, set up a lamentable cry; having wept till they had no longer power, they embraced each other, and dispersed in anguish and bitterness of heart, most of them to meet no more; each going where chance, or the hope of charity, conducted their steps; some to serve, and more to beg their bred; the wife separating from her husband, and the mother from her children.*

That similar scenes of distress have been witnessed since that time, appears from Mr. Knox. A gentleman who formerly resided in the highlands informed this philanthropic traveller, that during a scarcity, such as has been described, a poor farmer from a distant part of the country appeared at his gate with three

* See Stat. Account of Kirkhill.

small horses, imploring three bolls of meal to save his family and some of his neighbours, who having exhausted their stock, had collected three guineas to purchase grain or meal. The gentleman had a few bolls left, but his own neighbours being in the same situation with this man, he could afford him no relief, but advised him to proceed to Inverness, where grain in scarce seasons is imported by the merchants. The man went away greatly dejected: his horses were reduced to skeletons, and very unfit for the journey home under a load. In a few days this poor man appeared again, and informed him that neither grain nor meal could be had at Inverness, or elsewhere in that country; and that his family and neighbours were, by that time, looking out for his return with the means of their preservation. This account of the scarcity at Inverness, rendered the situation of the gentleman more embarrassing than before; his own people having a prior claim to his attention. He therefore refused the relief which must have been given at the expence of others in the same situation.

The poor man listened with impatience, and watery eyes, to the dreadful sentence; representing in very moving terms, the feelings and situation of his family and neighbours, should he return empty-handed. "Give me," said he, "one boll, and you shall have the price of three bolls; here, Sir, are the three guineas, I must not go back without meal, otherwise we must all perish—there is no remedy elsewhere." Unable to resist the simple but genuine eloquence of the poor man, the gentleman

ordered him a boll of meal, with which, and his money, he desired he would depart to his family, which he instantly did, in transports of joy and gratitude.*

THERE is a vegetable common in Britain, that grows in very great abundance among the heaths and woods of the Highlands, which formerly was much esteemed, and is still resorted to occasionally by the inhabitants; I mean the *Orobus tuberosus*, or heath-peasling. It has purple papilionaceous flowers, succeeded by a pod containing about twelve dark coloured seeds, resembling small shot.† The roots of this plant, when boiled, are very savoury and nutritious; and when dried and ground into powder, they may be made into bread. A great quantity of this plant grows among the woods of Glenmore, and the Higlanders frequently chew the roots like tobacco, asserting, that a small quantity of them prevents the uneasy sensation of hunger; so that they generally provide themselves with them in their hunting and fishing expeditions. They can likewise prepare an intoxicating liquor from it.

AFTER we had left Lochness, and emerged from the woods of hazel and birch, the whole face of the country appeared changed. The rugged mountains, among which we had travelled so long, dwindled into gentle elevations, and we took leave,

* Knox's View of the British Empire, vol. ii. p. 443.

† Lightfoot's Flora Scotica.

at least for a considerable time, of the charming lake scenery which had continually enchanted us with new views almost every stage since we left Dumbarton. Our present road was very good, leading through some very extensive fir plantations, belonging to Fraser of Bonham. From the top of a small hill we saw Inverness, the capital of the Highlands, to great advantage. Before we reached this town, we joined the river Ness,* which runs out of the north-east corner of the lake; this fine river is ornamented by some beautiful tufted isles before it reaches Inverness. It runs along slowly and majestically, and during the whole of its course, which is about eight miles, the fall is scarcely ten feet. A great deal of juniper *(Juniperus communis)* grows by the side of the road, between the General's Hut and Inverness, and indeed many of the neighbouring hills are almost covered with it: a ship load of the berries used annually to be sent from hence to Holland.

* This river abounds with salmon, trout, and flounders; the salmon fishing begins on the 30th of November, and ends the 18th of September. The Berwick Fishing Company have fished this river upwards of forty years. The quantity of salmon caught in it amounts annually, on an average, to 300 or 350 barrels, an amazing quantity to be caught in a river of so short a course. (See Stat. Account of Inverness.)

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

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OBSERVATIONS

ON A

TOUR

THROUGH

THE HIGHLANDS

AND PART OF THE

WESTERN ISLES

OF

SCOTLAND;

PARTICULARLY

STAFFA AND ICOLMKILL:

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

A DESCRIPTION OF THE FALLS OF THE CLYDE, OF THE COUNTRY ROUND MOFFAT,

AND AN

ANALYSIS OF ITS MINERAL WATERS.

BY T. GARNETT, M. D.

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL, PHYSICAL, AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETIES OF EDINBURGH; THE LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF MANCHESTER; THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; THE ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY; AND PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY AND CHEMISTRY IN THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

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OBSERVATIONS

ON A

TOUR

THROUGH THE HIGHLANDS.

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OBSERVATIONS

ON A

TOUR

THROUGH THE HIGHLANDS,

&c. &c.

INVERNESS is a large and well built town, containing about 8000 inhabitants. The houses are very lofty, and many of them elegant. It is very properly called the Capital of the Highlands, there being no other town of any consequence in the north. There are some very good inns: that, where we took up our abode, is kept by a Mrs. Ettles. Our accommodation was very good; we experienced much attention and civility, and were charged very reasonably. Almost opposite to our inn, near the centre of the town, stands the court-house, with which is connected the jail or tolbooth. It is a very handsome modern building, with an elegant tower, terminated by one of the handsomest spires I have seen. The prison is airy, and kept remarkably neat.

The town is governed by a provost, four bailies, and a dean of guild, assisted by a council consisting of twenty-one members, called the town council. The new council are elected every year by the old, before their office expires. The new council elect from their number, the provost, bailies, dean of guild, and a treasurer. There are six corporations of craftsmen, besides several crafts not incorporated.

It would be unpardonable not to mention the academy, an excellent institution, which was established here in the year 1790. The gentlemen of this and some of the neighbouring counties, had long considered the establishment of a seminary of learning, on a liberal and extensive plan, of very great importance to this part of the country. A committee having been appointed, in the year 1787, to consider of the most proper methods for carrying it into effect, immediately commenced an extensive correspondence, and subscriptions were opened in Scotland, England, France, America, and the East and West Indies; in all of which natives of this country were settled. A piece of ground containing about three acres, was purchased, and an elegant building erected, consisting of a large public hall, with six very spacious apartments for the accommodation of the different classes, the library, and philosophical apparatus. The business is conducted by a rector and four tutors.

In the first class the English language is taught grammatically; in the second, Latin and Geek; in the third, arithmetic and

book-keeping; in the fourth, the elements of Euclid, with their application to plane and spherical trigonometry, mensuration of solids and surfaces in all its parts; geography, with the use of the globes; navigation, and the most useful parts of practical astronomy; naval, civil, and military architecture; practical gunnery; perspective, and drawing. In the fifth, or highest, which is the rector's class, are taught civil and natural history, experimental philosophy, and chemistry.

THE rector has a house and small salary; the different tutors have likewise small salaries, so that they depend chiefly on the fees of their different classes, which make them much more attentive and industrious. The fees for each session are, to the master of the first class, six shillings; to the master of the second twelve shillings; the same to the master of the third: the fee for each session to the master of the fourth, is one guinea; and to the master of the highest class, a guinea and a half. Besides these fees, there is a small sum paid by every student attending the academy to the rector.

THE number of students is generally between two and three hundred. The year is divided into two terms or sessions: the first begins the 16th of July, and ends on the 20th of December; the second begins on the fifth of January, and ends on the tenth of June.

THE directors of the academy are the provost, bailies, dean of guild, sheriff of the county, and the moderator of the presbytery of Inverness. Subscribers of 50*l.* are likewise directors for life; and subscribers to the amount of 100*l.* are perpetual directors, *i. e.* the direction is continued to their heirs and assigns. Besides these directors, five gentlemen of the county are annually elected at the Michaelmas head-court. At the desire of the Highland Society of London, a class has been opened for teaching the Gaelic language, with a salary of fifteen pounds per annum, to which the directors have added sixteen pounds *.

THIS useful institution possesses many advantages. The situation of Inverness is in the midst of an extensive country; the town is pleasantly situated, healthy, and not too large; board is likewise very reasonable. From the popular way in which the directors are appointed, as well as from their respectability, they are likely to keep up the spirit of it, and prevent abuses. Though it has not the name, it possesses most of the advantages of an university, and may serve as a place of complete education for all, excepting those intended for the learned professions, who may here lay an excellent foundation, and raise the superstructure at Edinburgh or Glasgow. I do not mention Aberdeen or St. Andrew's, because though education is, I believe, very well conducted in them both, and particularly in the former, they are, notwithstanding the name, more to be considered in the light of the seminary of Inverness, because none intended for

* Stat. Account of Inverness

the learned professions, excepting the church, can finish their education there.

I CANNOT avoid observing here, that the inhabitants of North Britain have much juster and more liberal ideas of education than my countrymen; and I cannot but express a wish, that many of the large schools in England, which are so nobly endowed, but in which the dead languages only are taught, were modelled according to the plan of the Scotch academies and universities. At the time of the foundation of these schools, these languages were deservedly in repute; they were the keys which unlocked the learned lore of antiquity.

AFTER the dark gloom which was spread over Europe by the Goths, and which extinguished every ray of science, had begun to dispel, numbers of the works of the Greeks and Romans were discovered, which were rescued from the general wreck; these were revered, as containing all the knowledge extant. The invention of printing, soon afterwards, spread these treasures of antiquity over the world; and for ages, the philosophy of Aristotle was the standard, from whence there was no appeal: to acquire this knowledge, therefore, it was necessary to learn these languages. But our knowledge on almost every subject, and particularly of the sciences, is now infinitely superior to that of the ancients; and the best of their works have been translated into the modern languages. Hence there is now little necessity for learning the languages of antiquity, which are to be con-

sidered more as ornamental than useful. Is it not therefore better that the abilities of youth should be exercised in gaining a knowledge of things, instead of sounds? Instead of tormenting the young mind during that period when a store of useful knowledge might be laid in, with studying Latin and Greek for seven years, would it not be infinitely to their advantage to instruct them in history, geography, mathematics, mechanics, and other branches of experimental philosophy; particularly chemistry, which is a science of such importance, that there are few situations in life which would not be benefited by a knowledge of it? To the farmer it is as necessary as to the apothecary or the dyer. It is a science by no means difficult to learn, and were the principles of it early instilled into the mind, they would pave the way to discoveries perhaps of greater utility than any that have been yet made. Would it not likewise be of the utmost consequence to those intended for the different mechanic arts, to be instructed in the principles of mechanics? Without these principles, they can never make any material improvements: they may indeed stumble on discoveries, but can never investigate them from true principles.

If languages are to be learned, let them be the modern languages, as French, German, and Italian, in which useful works are written, and business transacted. I would not however discard the ancient languages from the schools, but consider them, as is done at Inverness, and the Scotch universities in general, rather as accessories, than the principal object of education. To

those who exercise the learned professions, they are necessary, because the sciences of law and medicine contain a number of technical terms derived immediately from those languages. Liberal and enlightened men are, however, now employed in stripping from them the scholastic jargon, which has concealed their beauties from the general eye for so many centuries. To the divine, these languages, and particularly the Greek and Hebrew, ought always to be familiar; it being very satisfactory, as well as necessary, to consult the sacred sources of revelation in their purity, unadulterated by the ignorance of translators, or the interpolations of the crafty or bigoted: but if medicine and law were stripped of the terms which now disgrace them, and the student, instead of spending the best of his time in learning the dead languages, should make a proficiency in the modern; and for medicine, particularly, lay a good foundation of mathematics, natural history, and natural philosophy, he would soon acquire a greater and more accurate knowledge of his profession than is generally done. A liberal and enterprising spirit has long shown itself in Inverness; and the good effects of this academy on the next generation will be very evident.

Besides this academy, there are several schools and charitable institutions; and a subscription is now carrying on, with great success, for an infirmary, which will be highly useful to the northern counties. I was informed, by an eminent medical gentleman at Inverness, that cancers are very common in this country, particularly among the labouring class of people, which

he attributes to their manner of living, and particularly to the use of whisky. This complaint here chiefly affects the lips, tongue, and nose, and it is certainly possible that it may be owing to the callosity induced by bringing the unadulterated spirit so often in contact with them, which destroys their irritability. Perhaps snuff and tobacco, which are much used in the Highlands, may contribute their share. Whether these complaints are pretty general over the Highlands, or confined to this district, I am unable to say, as I have not met with any Highland practitioners, since I received this intelligence, from whom I could gain information on the subject.

The principal manufactures in this place are hemp and flax. The first has been established near forty years, and at present employs in spinning, dressing, and weaving, above a thousand men, women, and children. The hemp is imported from the Baltic, and manufactured into sail-cloth and sacking, in which state it is sent to various parts of Britain, and the East and West Indies. The white-thread manufacture has been established near twenty years. This business is said to employ, in all its branches, such as heckling, spinning, twisting, bleaching, and dyeing, no less than ten thousand individuals in the town and surrounding country. The company have in this and the neighbouring counties several agents, who manage the spinning departments. The flax is likewise chiefly imported from the Baltic, and the greatest part of the thread sent to London, from whence it is dispersed to different parts of the world, the Inverness thread being very much esteemed.

The cotton manufacture has likewise found its way here, and succeeds very well: besides these, there is a considerable manufacture of tanned leather. This place possesses several advantages for manufactures; the raw material is easily imported, and the manufactured goods exported as readily: labour is likewise cheap. The greatest obstacle is the dearness of fuel, coal being imported from England; though it is by no means improbable, from the appearance of the country, that this useful mineral might be found in the neighbourhood, if some of the proprietors would risk a little in making proper trials; or allow these to be made by wealthy and public-spirited individuals.

The situation of the town is on a plain between the Murray Firth and the River Ness. Ships of four or five hundred tons can ride at anchor within a mile of it; and at spring tides, vessels of half that burden can come up to the quay, close to the town. The greatest number of vessels belonging to Inverness are employed in carrying to London the produce of the manufactures, the fish caught in the river Ness, and the skins of otters, rabbits, hares, foxes, goats, roes, &c. They bring back in return materials both for use and luxury, particularly hardware and haberdashery, for the retailing of which, as well as the wholesale business, there are some excellent shops in Inverness, that supply the very extensive district of which it is the capital.

The fish caught on the coast are herrings and sprats. The herrings are however much smaller than those caught on the western coast, and are only occasional visitants. In some years there is not the least appearance of them; in others they are more or less plentiful. This fishing is therefore very precarious.

Inverness is a royal burgh of great antiquity. Its first charter was granted by king Malcolm Canmore; the last by James VI. The highland dress is very common in this town and neighbourhood, and is undoubtedly much more picturesque and beautiful than the formal, tight, stiff habit of the English and Europeans in general. The highland bonnet is in particular very ornamental; so are the graceful folds of the plaid: the modern habit has, however, convenience to recommend it, and in a few years this ancient dress of the highlanders, which resembles very much that of the ancient Romans, will probably be scarcely seen.

English and Gaelic are spoken here promiscuously, though the language of the country people is Gaelic; the English is spoken with very great purity, both with respect to pronunciation and grammar. This may be owing to two causes; in the first place it is not the mother tongue, but is learned by book, as we learn Greek and Latin, and not from common conversation; and secondly, the garrisons of English soldiers which have been in the neighbourhood since the time of Cromwell, have in a great measure regulated the pronunciation; there is likewise compara-

tively little communication betwixt this country and the low-lands, so that the corrupt phrases and pronunciation of the latter are little known.

A FEW years ago were to be seen, on the western extremity of the hill overlooking the town, the ruins of a castle, which was demolished during the rebellion 1745. No vestige of it now remains, the stones having been taken away for building, and the ground cultivated.

THE climate and soil about Inverness are much more favourable to agriculture than those of the western highlands; the crops are at least a month more forward than on the western coast; we saw some barley that was very nearly ripe. Much less rain falls here than on the western coast, of this we were sensible from the appearance of the roads and country; it was likewise confirmed by the observations of several respectable gentlemen with whom we conversed. This is by no means difficult to account for, or different from what we should *à priori* expect. Our rain is generally brought by the west or south-westerly winds, which blow with much greater violence on the western coast; the high mountains arrest the clouds in their flight, and cause them to deposit their contents, which they do in almost constant showers; this, from the coldness occasioned by the evaporation of the fallen rains, as well as from the influence of the sun's rays being diminished by the continual intervention of clouds, is very unfavourable to the ripening of grain,

though it may contribute to the growth of grass. Besides, the force of the west winds seems broken by the ridge of mountains against which they strike, else how can we account for the great difference both in force and frequency of those winds on the eastern and western coasts? The soil on the east coast not being deluged with rain; the action of the sun not being so much diminished by a clouded atmosphere, and the surface of the ground being more flat, are all circumstances that render it much more favourable for the raising of green crops.

CONSIDERABLE quantities of wheat are sown here, which is not the case in the west, or indeed almost any other part of the highlands. At the different inns on the road, we could very seldom procure any other than oat-bread, and if I recollect right, the wheat-bread at Inverness was the first we had tasted since we left Inverary, if we except biscuits at Torloisk. Barley, oats, and peas, are likewise sown here, and potatoes are raised in great abundance, and constitute the principal food of the lower class of inhabitants, for more than three quarters of the year. The disease called the curl, which is so prejudicial to this plant, is unknown here.*

SOME rye is sown, generally mixed with oats, which gives a softness to the oat-bread of this country.

SINCE the introduction of sheep, the small tenantry are gradually wearing away, and the country becomes thinned of popu-

* Stat. Account of Inverness.

lation; but fortunately, those who are thus driven from their farms, find employment in the manufactures of the town, which has increased in population in a greater proportion than the country has diminished.

The same complaint is here made by the tenants, as in other parts of the Highlands, of the want of leases. Captain Duff, a gentleman of this neighbourhood, has however set an example worthy of the imitation of proprietors, which, if followed, would render their tenants vastly more comfortable, and make it their interest to improve the land, while it would considerably increase the incomes of the landlords. He grants leases to all his tenants, one condition of which is, that each must have a house built according to a certain plan, much more convenient and comfortable than the wretched habitations which I have been so often under the painful necessity of mentioning. If the tenant chooses to build his house himself, his landlord returns the money he has laid out, when he leaves the farm; but if he be not able or willing to undertake it, he must then pay legal interest for the money laid out in building it, which is certainly very reasonable.

We made what observations we could, and collected all the information we were able, concerning the town of Inverness, in the forenoon of July 29th, and after having taken an early dinner, we went to view the surrounding country. We were particularly struck with a beautiful hill, covered with trees, of a

singular form, resembling a ship with her keel uppermost; this hill, which rises in an abrupt, and as it were insulated manner from the plain, is called *Tom-na-heurich*, or Hill of Fairies. The height of it is about 250 feet above the level of the river; its base is a parallelogram, whose length is 1984 feet, and breadth 176.* From the summit, which is quite flat, is a very fine view of the town of Inverness and the adjacent country. This hill is about half a mile distant from Inverness.

About a mile farther from the town, is another hill, much higher, rugged and steep, called Craig Phatric. The elevation of its highest part above the bed of the river, is no less than 1150 feet. This hill we ascended by a winding road, which had evidently been formed out of the rock by art, and from the summit had a very fine view of the sea coast, with Fort George standing on a peninsula, and commanding the entrance into the river Ness. This is the last of the chain of forts formerly mentioned, but much larger and more complete than either of the others; it is indeed one of the most complete and regular fortifications in Britain.

The top of Craig Phatric is flat, and has been surrounded by a wall in the form of a parallelogram, the length of which is about eighty yards, and the breadth thirty, within the wall. The most curious circumstance attending it, is, that the stones are all firmly connected together by a kind of vitrified matter

* Stat. Account.

like lava, or like the slag or scoriæ of an iron foundry, and the stones themselves in many places seem to have been softened and vitrified.

The greatest part of the rampart is now covered with turf, so that it has the appearance of an earthen mound; but on removing the earth, the vitrified matter is every where visible, and would seem to have been in some places of considerable height. On the outside appears to have been a second kind of rampart, but not so regular as the first; considerable masses of vitrified matter are likewise found in this second rampart, under which is the natural rock, chiefly granite, with some breccia or pudding-stone here and there, composed of red granite pebbles, quartz, &c. in a cement of clay and quartose matter.

In many parts of the wall, the stones are entirely melted, or vitrified; others, on the contrary, in which the fusion has not been so complete, are sunk into the vitrified matter, in such a manner as to be nearly buried in it, or inclosed by it. Within the area is a hollow, which was formerly a well, but has been filled up to prevent sheep falling into it.

The remains of several vitrified forts like this, are to be met with on the summits of hills in the highlands; the first however who gave any accurate or distinct account of them, was Mr. Williams, mineral engineer. He published "An account of some remarkable ancient ruins, lately discovered in the Highlands and

northern parts of Scotland," in a series of letters. Among these ruins, he describes one on the hill of Knock Farril, on the south side of the valley of Strathpeffer in Ross-shire: one called Castle-Finlay, situated on the north-east, and another named Dun-evan, to the south-west of the Castle of Calder in Nairnshire.

EACH of these vitrified forts is situated on the top of a hill, which is in general small, when compared with the Highland mountains. These hills every where, he observes, overlook and command the view of a beautiful valley, or widely extended level country. They have always a level area on the summit, of greater or less extent, like Craig Phatric; and this level area has been surrounded by a wall, which, as far as can be judged from the extent of the ruins, has been both high and strong; these walls are vitrified, or run and compacted together by the force of fire.

THOUGH these fortified hills have a level area on the summit, yet they are always difficult of access, except in one place, which has every where been strengthened by additional works.

SINCE these vitrified forts were described by Mr. Williams, the attention of the curious has been directed to this subject, and several others have been discovered and described by different writers, particularly by Cardonnel and Cordiner: Mr. Lettice

in his Tour, likewise describes one situated on a lofty rock near the sea, on the south-west part of the isle of Bute.

THESE forts appear to be very ancient. Mr. WILLIAMS says, that on making a section through that on Knockfarril, he in some places cut through heath that grew out of peat-moss which was half a foot deep, under which he found the vitrified ruins as strong as any where else. A great part of the ruins of Knockfarril, he observes, is grown over with heath and grass; and the peat-moss must certainly have been formed in the course of a very long time, by the grass and branches of the heath falling off yearly and rotting.

RESPECTING the origin of these forts, there have been a variety of opinions. Some have supposed them to be entirely volcanic; the hill upon which they stand has been thought to have been forced up, into its present conical form, by the force of volcanic fire, which getting vent at the top, has thrown out the lava, or vitrified matter that is found there. In the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, for 1777, is "an account of *Creek Faterick*, a volcanic hill near Inverness," in a letter from THOMAS WEST, esquire, to Mr. LAW. In this letter Mr. WEST decidedly pronounces this hill to be an extinguished volcano. He sent a number of specimens of the vitrified matter for the inspection of the society; and we find a note subjoined to the paper by the secretary, signifying that these specimens having been examined by some of the members well

acquainted with volcanic productions, were by them judged to be real lava.

THE bishop of DERRY, when on a tour to the north of Scotland, visited Craig-Phatric, and expressed his opinion that the mounds of vitrified matter are not the remains of any artificial work, but the traces of an ancient volcano.

THE reverend Mr. CORDINER, who has published a description of several parts of the east coast of Scotland, adorned with some beautiful engravings, endeavours to support the idea of these mounds having been the remains of volcanos.

MR. WILLIAMS, however, thinks that they are entirely the production of art; and that the vitrification has been produced by the builders, who were unacquainted with cement, in order to make the forts stronger. He refers them to the times of Fingal, and observes, that the fort on Knockfarril is called by the common people Knock-farril-na-Fion, or Fingal's seat, or resting place on Knockfarril. The mound on Craig-Phatric is likewise called the Giant's Castle, and we know that Fingal and his heroes, from the exaggerated accounts that have been given of them by their bards, are supposed to have been a kind of giants, or men vastly superior to us in valour, strength, and stature.

MR. WILLIAMS supposes that some great fires, which the ancient inhabitants of these countries have used, either in running

bog-ore for their iron utensils, or in offering burnt sacrifices, would give them the first hint that a strong fire would vitrify stones, and connect them together, which hint some genius might improve, and apply to the cementation of forts.

He supposes that they raised two parallel walls or dykes, of earth or sods, in the direction of their intended wall, leaving a space between them just wide enough for the building; and that these parallel dykes formed the mould or groove in which they were to run their vitrified wall. This groove he imagines they packed full of fuel, on which they laid a proper quantity of the materials to be vitrified. A hot fire, he observes, would undoubtedly melt the stones, especially if they were of the plum-pudding kind, and not too large. The frame of earth would keep the materials, when in fusion, from running without the breadth of their intended wall.

The foundation being thus laid, he supposes they have added new fires, and more materials, and raised their mould of earth by degrees, till they brought the whole to the intended height, and then have removed the earth from both sides of the vitrified wall. He is confident, from the appearance of the ruins, that the materials were run down by fire in some such manner as has been described. In all the sections of the larger and smaller fragments of the vitrified ruins, he has never seen the least appearance of a stone laid in any particular way. He has never seen a large stone in any fragment of these ruins, nor any stone

or a piece of a stone that was not affected by the fire, and some part of it vitrified.* In this explanation he is joined by Dr. ANDERSON of Monkshill, and Mr. CARDONNEL.

MR. A. FRASER TYTLER, who has given an account of Craig-Phatric, in the second volume of the Edinburgh Philosophical Transactions, agrees with those who think that these vitrified structures are artificial works; but he differs from Mr. WILLIAMS, and others, in the idea that they were vitrified for the purpose of cementing the materials together. His reason for objecting to this is, that the number of forts which show any marks of vitrification, is inconsiderable, when compared with those which do not. He therefore considers the vitrification as accidental, and supposes it to have been produced in the following manner:

IN the rude state in which there is every appearance of their having been formed, it is very probable that buildings both for habitations and defence, would be frequently constructed of loose stones, of an irregular shape, of which, by themselves, it would be scarce possible to fabricate a wall of any tolerable strength. Hence it became necessary to use wood as well as stone in their construction. This kind of building, in his opinion, was begun by raising a double row of palisadoes, or strong stakes, in the form of the intended structure, in the same way as in the ancient mode of building described by Palladio, under the name of

* See Williams's account of some remarkable ancient ruins, p. 47.

reimpuita a cassa, or coffer-work.* These stakes were probably warped across by boughs of trees, laid very closely together, so as to form two fences, running parallel to each other, at the distance of some feet, so close as to confine all the materials of whatever size that were thrown between them. Into this intermediate space, Mr. TYTLER supposes boughs and trunks of trees were thrown with earth and stones of all sizes. Very little care would be necessary in the disposition of these materials, as the outward fence would keep the mould in form. In this way, it is easy to conceive that a very strong bulwark might be reared with great dispatch; which, joined to the natural advantage of a very inaccessible situation, and that improved by artful contrivances for increasing the difficulty of access, would form a structure capable of answering every purpose of security or defence. The most formidable attack against such a building would be by fire, which would, no doubt, be always attempted, and often with success, by an enemy who undertook the siege. If the besiegers prevailed, in gaining an approach to the ramparts, and surrounding the external wall, they would set fire to it in several places; the conflagration must speedily have become universal, and the effect may be easily imagined. If there happened to be any wind at the time to increase the heat, the stony parts would come into fusion; and as the wood burned away, these stones sinking by their own weight into a solid mass, there would remain a wreck of vitrified matter, tracking the spot where the ancient rampart stood; irregular and

* See Pallad. Architect. lib. 1. cap. 9.

of unequal height, from the fortuitous and unequal distribution of the stony materials of which it had been composed.

This conjecture seems not improbable, from their appearance at this day; they do not seem, according to him, to have been much higher than they are at present, though it will be recollected by the reader, that the contrary is asserted by Mr. Williams. The durable nature of these materials would prevent them from suffering any changes by time; though from the gradual increase of the soil, they must in some places have lost considerably of their apparent height, and in others have been quite covered.

In confirmation of this opinion, Mr. Tytler likewise urges, that in the fortification on Craig-Phatric, a large portion of the outward rampart bears no marks of vitrification. The reason of this seems to be, that the steepness of the hill on that side, rendered a low fence of turf and stones sufficient; and no wood had probably been employed in its construction. It appears therefore highly probable, says this writer, that the effect of fire upon these hill fortifications has been entirely accidental, or to speak more properly, that fire has been employed, not in the construction, but in the demolition of such buildings; and for the latter purpose, he observes, it would prove more efficacious than for the former.

Whatever side of this dispute we take, we seem to be surrounded with considerable difficulties; and it is curious enough

to remark, how the same appearances have led different observers to conclusions so very opposite. How, or for what purpose, the vitrification has been produced, I cannot pretend to decide. Craig-Phatric is the only one of these vitrified hills that I have seen; there are many circumstances which tend to convince an observer, that these works have been artificial, particularly the regular form, which we cannot suppose to have arisen from any volcanic eruption. Besides, there is a road evidently cut with great labour from the level ridge of the rock to the summit, which would otherwise have been inaccessible. At the same time, when the immense quantity of vitrified matter on some of these hills is considered, particularly on the top of Noth, as described by CORDINER, it is not easy to suppose it possible that the art of man could have formed it. That such masses should have been brought into perfect fusion, by the small quantity of fuel which could be put round them in the palisadoes, or mixed with the materials themselves, will not appear very credible, when we consider the extreme difficulty with which stones of any magnitude are brought into complete fusion. On the other hand, though the appearances about BEREGONIUM, mentioned in vol. 1. as well as the basaltic columns of Staffa, and other observations, particularly those which will be afterwards made on the hill of KINNOUL, show that this country has sometimes been the seat of volcanos; yet this explanation, when applied to these hills, seems to be attended with insurmountable difficulties; for we shall not, I believe, find examples in any other parts of the world, of volcanos ejecting lava in the form of a parallelogram wall, though the currents do sometimes assume an

appearance of regularity: but here is a mass of vitrified matter in the track of the wall only, and none towards the centre of the flat area, as might be expected. We must therefore I think conclude, that though these appearances are certainly the works of art, yet we are not possessed of sufficient data to decide the question with respect to their construction.

I CANNOT however help thinking with Mr. TYTLER, that these ancient fortifications present a more curious and interesting object of speculation, than those uncertain and fruitless conjectures, as to the mode in which they have been reared.

THEY were undoubtedly built before the use of mortar was known; for as the country abounds with limestone, and the builders would certainly exert all their powers in giving them a proper degree of strength, it would therefore have been used, had they been acquainted with it. Hence we must ascribe to these buildings a considerable degree of antiquity: as the Britons were taught the use of mortar by the Romans, it is probable that we must date their origin before the time of the invasion of that people; so that we may look upon them to be more than 1650 years old; but it does not appear how much beyond that period we should go for their origin. All that can be concluded with certainty is, that they belonged to a period of extreme barbarism. They must have been constructed, as Mr. TYTLER observes, by a people scarcely removed from the state of savages, who lived under no impression of fixed or regulated property in land; whose only appropriated goods were their cattle, and whose sole security,

in a life of constant depredation, was the retreat to the summits of those hills of difficult access, which they had fortified in the best manner they could. Mr. TYTLER indeed supposes, that these forts were constructed not only before the Roman invasion, but even before the introduction of the rites of the Druids into Britain, because it does not appear probable that the inhabitants either lived under such a government as we know to have prevailed under the influence of the Druids, or had any acquaintance with those arts, which it is certain they cultivated.

AFTER having examined with considerable attention the Vitrified Fort on Craig-Phatric, we waited on Provost JOHN MACKINTOSH, who resides during the summer at about two miles distance from Inverness, with whom we spent the remainder of the day. After tea, he accompanied us to the plain of Culloden, about a mile distant from his house, and three miles from Inverness, memorable for the total defeat of the Rebels on the 16th of April, 1746, by the king's troops under the duke of CUMBERLAND, which put an end to the wild and ambitious projects of the Stuart family.

NEAR this Moor is Culloden House, the residence of the ancient family of FORBES. It was here that the young Adventurer lodged on the evening preceding the engagement, which put a period to his hopes. For some time before, dissensions had broke out in his army, which was totally insubordinate to discipline; private quarrels had distracted his officers, and these

circumstances, together with his want of success, had filled his mind with despair: he seemed as if he had lost all power of acting, and could scarcely be prevailed upon to mount his horse on the morning of the fatal day.

THE royal army began their march from Nairn, in five columns, of three battalions each, led by Major-general Huske on the left, lord Sempill on the right, and brigadier Mordaunt in the centre, flanked by the horse under generals Hawley and Bland, who likewise covered the cannon on the right and left. In this order they marched about eight miles, when a detachment of Kingston's horse, and of the highlanders, having advanced before the rest of the army, discovered the van of the Rebels drawn up on Culloden Moor. The royal army immediately formed; the number was 8,811, that of the rebels 8,350, so that there was no great inequality, and it is generally thought that the rebels might have made a better stand, had they been well affected to their Chief, and to each other. They had some four-pounders, with which, from behind a park wall on the right, they began about two o'clock to cannonade the duke's army; but their artillery, if it deserved that name, was so very insignificant and ill-served, that it did little execution, while the fire from their enemies was severely felt, and occasioned great disorder. Impatient of this fire, their front line advanced to the attack, and about 500 of the clans charged the duke's right wing with their usual impetuosity. One regiment was disordered by the weight of this column; but two battalions advancing from

the second line, soon stopped their career; finding themselves thus di sappointed, they turned their whole force on the left, endeavouring to flank the front line. This design was also defeated, by the advancing of Wolfe's regiment, while in the mean time the cannon kept playing on them with cartridge shot. General Hawley, assisted by some highlanders, had opened a passage through the park wall on the right, through which the horse on the left of the royal army advanced; while the horse on the right turning the opposite way, dispersed the Pretender's corps of reserve, and met those who had come through the wall in the centre; these jointly attacked the front line of the rebels in the rear, which, being repulsed in front, fell into great confusion. A dreadful carnage was made by the cavalry on their backs; notwithstanding which, some part of the foot still preserved their ground; but Kingston's horse, from the reserve, galloping up briskly, and charging them, did terrible execution. In a very short time they were totally defeated, and the field covered with the slain. Of the rebels about 2,500 were killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, while the royal army only lost about 200 men.

DURING the engagement, the French piquets, who were stationed on the right, did not fire a single shot, but stood perfectly inactive, and afterwards surrendered themselves prisoners of war. An entire body of the clans marched off the field in order, at the beginning, with their pipes playing.

THE barges of the English attended near the shore for the safety of the duke's person, in case of a defeat; but when he perceived them, he immediately ordered them to a distance, to convince his men that he was resolved either to conquer or perish with them; it had however been agreed between the persons in the ships and the troops, that if the latter were victorious, they should set fire to a house, which they did, and several persons, men, women, and children, escaped the flames with great difficulty.

THE highlanders were buried by their friends the next day, who dug holes for them on the moor. Among the heath we were shown several green elevated spots which contained their remains, and one larger than the rest, where no less than fifty were interred together. In one which had been opened a few days before, we saw several human bones. The country people often find small cannon- and musquet-balls, which they sell to the curious who come to take a view of this field of battle.

THE young Pretender had his horse shot under him during the engagement, and after the battle fled with great precipitation and alone, to the house of a factor of lord LOVAT, about ten miles from Inverness, where he staid that night, and was joined by a few followers; next day he went to fort Augustus. Finding himself pursued, he took to the mountains, and for several days wandered about the country. Sometimes unattended he found refuge in caves and cottages; sometimes he lay in

forests, with one or two companions of his distress, constantly pursued by the troops of the conqueror, who had offered a reward of thirty thousand pounds for taking him dead or alive. He had occasion, in the course of his concealments, to trust his life to above fifty individuals, whose sense of honour and veneration for his family outweighed their avarice.

A PERSON of the name of MAC-IAN, to whose cottage he went, and on whose protection he threw himself, though no friend to his cause, watched over him with inviolable fidelity for weeks, and even robbed, at the risque of his life, for his support, at the very time that he and his family were in a state of starvation, and when he knew he could gain an immense sum by betraying his guest. This poor man was afterwards executed for stealing a cow, in a very severe season, to keep his family from starving. A little before his execution, he took off his bonnet, and thanked God that he had never betrayed a trust, never injured the poor, and never refused a share of what he had to the stranger and needy. This man certainly deserved a better fate, and the King was said to have declared, that had he known the circumstance in proper time, he would have put him in a situation in which he would not have been tempted to steal a cow for his subsistence.*

ONE day after the unfortunate Adventurer had walked from morning till night, without tasting food, he ventured to enter a

* Stat. Account of Glenorchy.

house, the owner of which he knew was attached to the opposite party. As he entered, he addressed the master of the house in the following manner: "The son of your king comes to beg a little bread and a few clothes; I know your present attachment to my adversaries, but I believe you have sufficient honour not to abuse my confidence, or to take advantage of my distressed situation. Take these rags that have for some time been my only covering; you may probably restore them to me one day when I shall be seated on the throne of my ancestors." The master of the house was touched with pity at his distress; he assisted him as far as he was able, and never divulged the secret.*

For six whole months did this unfortunate man wander among the wilds of Glengary, often closely hemmed in by his pursuers, but still rescued, as if providentially, from the impending danger. At last a privateer from St. Maloes, hired by his adherents, arrived in Lochrannach, in which he embarked in a most wretched attire, having never changed his linen for several weeks. They set sail for France, and after having been chased by two English men of war, they arrived in safety on the coast of Bretagne.

The behaviour of the soldiers, after the victory at Culloden, will always be a stain both upon the army and their commander; they refused quarter to the wounded, unarmed, and defenceless;

* Goldsmith.

many were slain who had only been spectators of the combat, and the soldiers were seen to anticipate the executioner.

It is generally supposed that this battle was fought contrary to the advice of some of the most sensible men in the rebel army, who wished the Pretender to retire to some fortresses on the north of the Ness, where they might defend themselves among the mountains; they represented that England was engaged in bloody wars, foreign and domestic; that it could then but ill spare its troops; and that from these and other considerations, the government might be induced to grant to the insurgents their lives and fortunes, on condition of laying down their arms; this rational plan was however superseded by the favourite faction in the army, to whose guidance the unfortunate and infatuated Adventurer had resigned himself.

July 30th. Having breakfasted very early, we took the road to Dunkeld, generally called the highland road; the first stage, which was fifteen miles, was very dreary, nothing but shapeless hills covered with heath being visible, till we came to the 12th mile-stone, when we perceived on our left a small lake called Loch Moy, whose banks were beautifully wooded. The length of this lake is near two miles, and its breadth about three quarters of a mile. It abounds with char and trout.

Near the middle of this lake is an island, containing about two acres of ground, at the south end of which are the remains

of a house, which has been a place of strength in turbulent times. It appears, from an inscription over the gate, to have been built in the year 1665, by LAUCHLAN, the twentieth laird of Mackintosh. Adjoining this house was a garden, which still contains some fruit trees. From the ruins yet remaining, it would appear that there have been formerly very extensive buildings on this island: the remains of a street, running the whole length of the island, with the foundations of houses on each side, are still very visible; and in the year 1760, two ovens were discovered, each capable of containing four bushels of meal made into bread.*

IN 1422, this place contained a garrison of four hundred men. At the distance of about two hundred yards from this, is an artificial island, which has been formed by heaping a parcel of large round stones upon each other. This was used as a place of confinement for malefactors, before the abolition of the judicial power of the chiefs. It is so very little raised, that when the lake was low the criminal could just stand with dry feet; but after rains, the water rose to his middle. This place is still called *Ellan-na-glach*, or the stony island.

THIS lake, and the neighbouring country, is the property of the chief or captain of the clan MACKINTOSH, who used to reside on the island; the present laird has a good house, pleasantly situated, at the head of the lake. This estate came into the pos-

* Stat. Account of Moy.

session of William, the seventh laird of Mackintosh, in the year 1336, being conveyed to him by David, bishop of Murray. The clan CHATTAN, or MACKINTOSH, is a very ancient and powerful clan, consisting originally of sixteen tribes, each having their own chieftain, but all voluntarily united under the government of one leader, of whom the present laird of Mackintosh is the representative.

HERE is preserved the sword of JAMES V. given by that monarch to the captain of clan CHATTAN, with the privilege of bearing the king's sword; on the blade is the word JESUS. It was consecrated, and sent to James, by pope LEO X.

THE parish church of Moy stood formerly on the island, but is now removed to the western bank of the lake, as well as the manse, or minister's house.

THAT in turbulent times the powerful chief of Mackintosh was not inactive, or more disposed to peace than his neighbours, will appear from the following account of the conflict of *Clagh-na-herey*, related in the history of the feuds and conflicts of the clans, a work which has been before noticed. As the account is not very long, I shall transcribe it literally.

"ABOUT the year of God 1341, JOHN MONRO, tutor of Foulis, travelling homeward on his journey from the south of Scotland, towards Ross, did repose himself by the way, in Strathar-

dale, betwixt Saint Johnstoun and Athole, where he fell at variance with the inhabitants of that country, who abused him; which he determined to revenge afterward. Being come to Ross, he gathered together his whole kinsmen, neighbours, and followers, and declared unto them how he had been used, and craves their aid to revenge himself; whereunto they yield. Thereupon he singled out 350 of the strongest and ablest men amongst them, and so went to Strathardale, which he wasted and spoiled; killed some of the people, and carried away their cattle. In his return home (as he was passing by the isle of Moy with his prey, Mackintosh, chieftain of the clan Chattane, sent to him to crave a part of the spoil, challenging the same as due to him by custom: John Monro offered Mackintosh a reasonable portion, which he refused to accept, and would have no less than the half of the whole spoil, whereunto John would not yield. So Mackintosh convening his forces with all diligence, he followed John Monro, and overtook him at Clagh-na-herey, beside Kessack, within one mile of Inverness. John, perceiving them coming, sent 50 of his men to Ferren-donnel with the spoil, and encouraged the rest of his men to fight. So there ensued a cruel conflict, where Mackintosh was slain, with most part of his company. Divers of the Monroes were also killed, and John Monro left as dead on the field; but after all was appeased, he was taken up by some of the people thereabout, who carried him to their houses, where he recovered of his wounds; and was afterwards called John Back-lawighe, because he was mutilate of an hand."

At the end of the stage we came to a wretched-looking mud hut, and were shown into an apartment perfectly corresponding to the external appearance, where the wind whistled through the broken panes. Here we dined, and found our fare much better than we expected. While dinner was preparing, we amused ourselves with angling in the river Findhorn, which runs close to the inn. This hut is called the Freeburn Inn, and is kept by Alexander Macpherson, as we were informed by a large sign board, which must have cost nearly as much as the house, if not more *. A small rivulet called Freeburn falls into the Findhorn at this place, whence the name of the inn.

Mr. Watts had the fortune to catch some trout, but I had bad luck, owing I believe to my attending more to the pebbles that formed the bed of the river, than to the flies. I was not however without my reward, for I found a most beautiful kidney-shaped pebble of fine talc, near two pounds in weight. From the appearance of this pebble, it must have come from a bed of talc probably of considerable size, equal in purity to that from Muscovy. It would not perhaps be difficult to find this bed, by examining carefully both banks of the river, and likewise the banks of the different rivulets which fall into it, from Freeburn upwards.

* I have lately seen proposals for building a commodious Inn here by subscription. Mr. Mackintosh, the proprietor, is to advance two hundred pounds, and three hundred are to be raised by the gentlemen in the country.

The river Findhorn takes its rise from a few inconsiderable springs at no great distance, the principal one of which issues from a fissure in a large rock. The whole course of this river, from its source to where it falls into the Murray Firth, is about fifty miles. It is called, in English, *Findhorn*, but the Gaelic name is *Uisg-carn*. As the river runs during the greatest part of its course between very high mountains, which pour into it a great many torrents, it rises very rapidly, and falls as suddenly.

After dinner we pursued our course to Avimore, fifteen miles further, where we slept. The house and accommodations were very good. The first half of our afternoon's ride was extremely barren and dreary: On our road we overtook several groups of women, with some children and a few men. They informed us that they came from the county of Sutherland, and were travelling to the south country to assist in the harvest, an annual custom with many of these people. Each of them had a bundle on the back, containing a few articles of clothing, and a bag of oatmeal, on which they chiefly subsist during their journey, lodging at nights in barns.

The greatest part of the ground on the road side, and probably to a considerable extent, was in a manner covered with the *Arbutus-uva-ursi*, and the *Juniperus communis* grows in great plenty in some places. About the distance of ten miles from Freeburn, we entered some very extensive natural pine forests, under which grew great quantities of the *Vaccinium myrtillus*,

the berries of which were then ripe, and tempted us to stop some time to gather them. The pine forest was succeeded by woods of weeping birch, which made this part of the road very pleasant. About three miles before the end of our journey, the country assumed a very different aspect, and the lumpish hills were exchanged for very picturesque mountains. At a small distance from the inn at Avimore is a Druidical Temple very entire.

THE greatest part of this day's ride, it must be confessed, was however dreary, but was enlivened by the mile-stones on the road; objects which we had not seen, I think, since we left Arroquhar, or at furthest Inverary, and which afforded us much more satisfactory information than the rude conjectures of the peasants whom we met. It frequently happened that when we asked any person how far it was to the next stage; if they could speak any English, after some consideration, they would tell us perhaps six miles; after riding a mile or two further, if we asked another person, he would say six, or perhaps seven miles; so that, in several instances, the nearer we approached to the end of our journey, the further, according to these accounts, we were from it. With the idea of facilitating our communication with the highlanders, Mr. Watts had, before we set out, employed himself in learning Gaelic; but instead of being useful, my friend's knowledge of this language seemed to perplex us, for though he could ask several necessary questions, yet he could scarcely comprehend their answers; and when they had heard him once

speak Gaelic, we could scarcely ever prevail on any of the persons whom we met to speak any English, so that we literally experienced the truth of the adage,

A little learning is a dangerous thing.

AVIMORE is situated in a narrow valley, or strath, called *Strath-spey*, from its being intersected by the river Spey. From the windows of our inn we saw, at a considerable distance, a high mountain, near the top of which were several large patches of snow. This mountain was *Cairn-gorm*, or the blue mountain, and is one of the highest of the Grampians, its summit being 4,050 feet above the level of the sea.* This mountain is celebrated for its beautiful rock crystals of various tints, which are much esteemed by the lapidaries. Many of them have the lustre of fine gems, and bring very high prices. They are known by the name of Cairn-gorm crystals; a name, however, which is in Scotland given to similar crystals, though found in other situations.

JULY 31. Leaving Avimore, we entered a wood of birch, which was succeeded by a forest of oak, and afterwards passed through a pleasant fertile country. After travelling about seven miles, we saw a lake on our left, about a mile long and half a mile broad: the name of it, we were told, was Loch Alvie. It empties itself into the Spey, and abounds with very fine white and red trout, generally about a pound in weight, though some

* Stat. Account of Kirkmichael.

are found which weigh four or five pounds. Though this lake has a communication with the Spey, it has been supposed that its fish seldom visit that river, as they are much finer than those found in the Spey. At no great distance from the lake is the burial place of the chief of the MACPHERSONS. The district in which we now were, is called Badenoch, and this part of it is the country of the Macphersons. A little further we passed Belville, a large modern house, situated on an eminence on our right, the property of Mr. Macpherson. Here the river Spey runs for several miles through the middle of a fertile flat valley, which has evidently been a lake: the waters of this river have undoubtedly, at a former period, covered this verdant flat, being then confined by a barrier, or natural dam, a little below Pitmain, which has evidently been worn away, and thus the water has subsided, and the river contracting itself into a narrower compass, now meanders through the vale it once covered. Instances of this kind are common in almost all mountainous countries. A river often winds through a perfectly flat plane, which, when covered with snow, may easily be mistaken for the frozen surface of a lake. Instances of this may be seen in various parts of the highlands, and in the neighbourhood of Moffat, which will be more particularly noticed in their proper place.

ON the opposite side of the Spey, upon a mound apparently artificial, stand the ruins of a fortress called Castle Rivin.

The name of the inn where we stopped is Pitmain, thirteen miles distant from Avimore. It is a very good house, and adjoining to it is a better garden than I ever saw belonging to an inn, if we except some of the public gardens near London. It contained abundance of fruit, of which we were invited to partake by our landlord, a good-natured man, and very fond of boasting of his intimacy with the nobility.

About two miles from Pitmain, and within a few yards of the high road, is an artificial cave, about sixty feet long, nine broad, and seven high, the sides of which are built with stones; it is covered with large flags or flat stones, over which a house was built. The entry into this cave is said to have been from the centre of the house, by raising one of the flags of the floor. From this circumstance, it appears formerly to have been the retreat of banditti.

After having dined at Pitmain, and listened for an hour to the conversation of our landlord, who came to drink a glass of punch with us, we set off for Dalwhinnie, distant likewise thirteen miles. The ride was exceedingly bleak and dreary. About two miles from Pitmain we crossed the Spey, and kept near it for some time. In the whole of this day's ride we saw plenty of the *Arbutus-uva-ursi*, and a great deal of the *Alchimilla alpina*. The inn at Dalwhinnie, where we slept, was by no means uncomfortable.

AUGUST 1st. From Dalwhinnie we came to Dalnacardoch,* another stage of thirteen miles. Our ride was among barren mountains, but generally by the side of a river; soon after we lost sight of one, we met with another. About six miles from Dalwhinnie we came to a lake into which two rivers emptied themselves; more than half of it, on that part where the smaller river enters, was filling up; it was yet too soft to bear a considerable weight, but was covered with a beautiful green turf, through which the river bent its serpentine course.†

* *Dail-na-cardoch*, signifies the dale of the smith's shop, or rather of the iron work. In many parts between this place and Blair, are to be seen holes in which iron was smelted by means of wood.

† The idea that many lakes have disappeared, has been repeatedly mentioned, and when we take an accurate survey of several extensive plains or valleys, in mountainous countries, we shall find abundant reason to believe that these collections of water were formerly much more numerous than at present; and that many of the fertile plains we meet with have been the bottoms of lakes. Mr. GOUGH of Kendal has considered this curious subject with much attention, and has communicated his ideas in an excellent paper, printed in the fourth volume of the Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, to which the reader is referred. He points out two ways in which a lake may have disappeared. The first is by its bed being filled up with vegetable matter growing within it, which will gradually exclude the water, and in this way he accounts for the flat marshes, or peat bogs that supply many countries in the north of Europe with fuel; great numbers of these are to be met with in many parts of the highlands, and in Ireland, which are as exactly level as a piece of water.

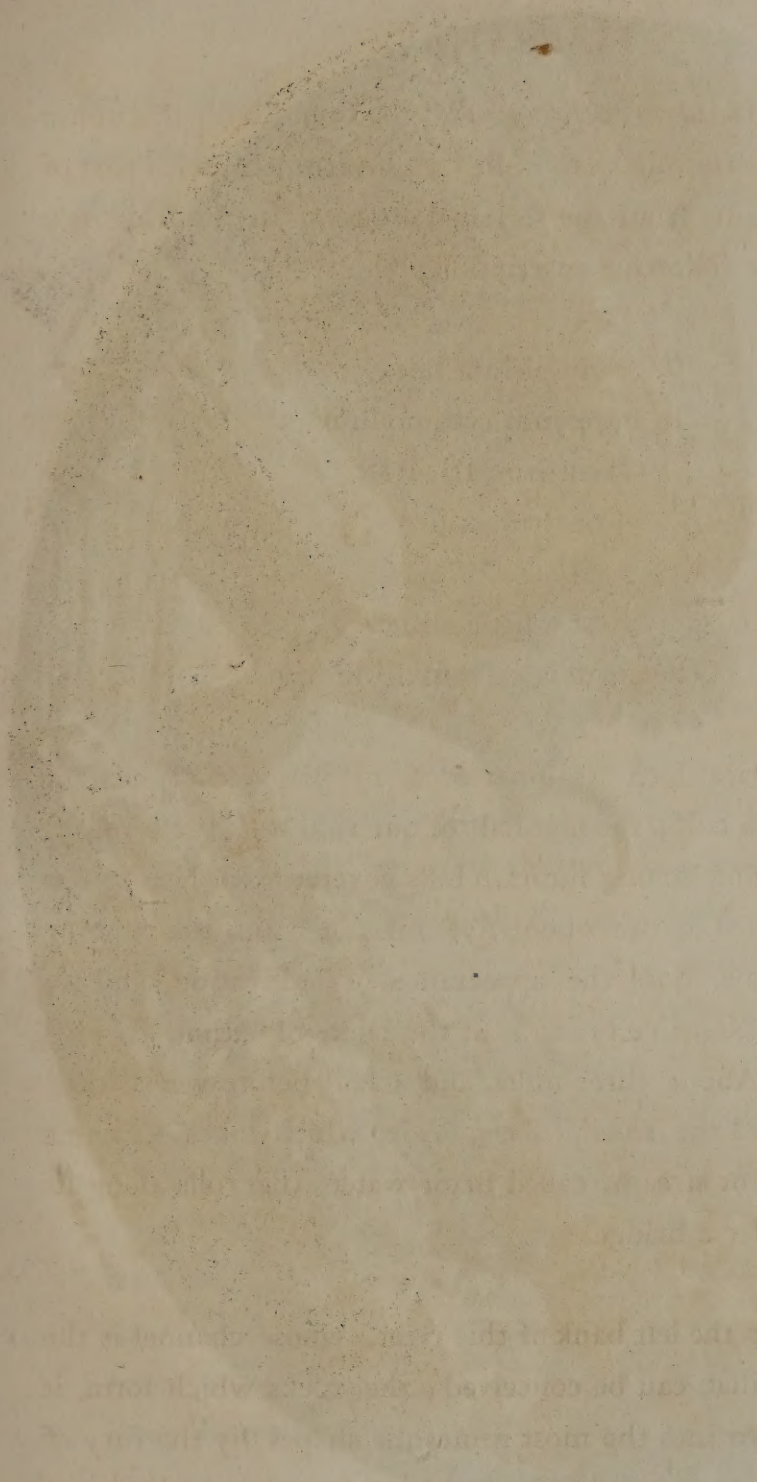
THE second way in which lakes have disappeared, has been from the outlet being gradually corroded, or worn by the force of the stream; hence the water will gradually subside, the inequalities of the basin will appear above the surface in the form of islands; and whenever the situation of the discharging river would permit its bed to be worn to the level of the lowest part of the reservoir, the lake has disappeared, and we find a valley in its room. It is easy to perceive whether the water of a lake has disappeared from its having been filled up with vegetables, or emptied by the wearing down of its lowest bank. In the first place, a bog or moss is formed, as level as water, and in the second, a hollow basin, the soil of which lies on a pebbly bottom.

THE inn at Dalnacardoch is a very good one; both this house and that at Dalwhinnie were built by Government, with part of the money arising from the forfeited estates. In the front is a stone, with the following inscription:

Hospitium hoc
In Publicum commodum
GEORGIUS III. REX
Construi insistit.
A. D. 1774.
Rest a little while.
Galehaif fois cal tamvill bhig.

FROM Dalnacardoch we proceeded to Blair-Athol, distant ten miles and a half; the first half of our ride was by no means interesting, being among lumpish hills covered with heath; but when we arrived within about five miles of Blair, the country began to assume more the appearance of cultivation, and we discerned the extensive grounds of the Duke of Athol, covered with wood. About three miles and a half before we reached Blair we passed the small village *Bruir*, which takes its name from a turbulent stream, called Bruir-water, that rolls along its rocky bed under a bridge.

WE went up the left bank of this river, whose channel is the most rugged that can be conceived; the rocks which form it have been worn into the most grotesque shapes by the fury of the water. A foot-path has lately been made by the Duke of



Drawn by W.H. Watts.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

Athol, which conducts the stranger in safety along the side of the chasm, where he has an opportunity of seeing, in a very short time, several very fine cascades; one over which a bridge is thrown, forms a very picturesque object. This is called the lower fall of Bruir.

THE water here rushes under the bridge, and falls in a full broad sheet over the rocky steep, and descends impetuously through a natural arch, into a dark black pool, as if to take breath, before it resumes its course, and rushes down to the Garry.

PROCEEDING up the same side of the river, along the foot-path, we came in sight of another rustic bridge, and a noble cascade, consisting of three falls or breaks, one immediately above another; but the lowest is equal in height to both the others taken together. Each of the higher breaks is about fifty feet, the lowest a hundred, so that the whole cascade is not less than two hundred feet. This is called the upper fall of Bruir. Crossing the bridge over this tremendous cataract, with trembling steps, we walked down the other bank of the river, to a point from whence we enjoyed the view of this fine fall to great advantage. The shelving rocks on each side of the bridge, with the water precipitating itself from rock to rock, and at last shooting headlong, filling with its spray the deep chasm, form a scene truly sublime; the nakedness of the hills indeed takes away somewhat from its picturesque beauty. The poet BURNS,

when he visited these falls, wrote a beautiful poetical petition from Bruir-water to the Duke of Athol, praying him to ornament its banks with wood and shade; the noble proprietor has been pleased to grant the prayer of the petitioner, and has lately planted the banks of this river: the plantation is yet very young, but in a few years will have a very good effect.

No person from the southern parts of the country, coming to Blair, should omit seeing the falls of Bruir. It must be confessed that we saw them to great advantage, on account of the rain which had fallen during the two or three preceding days; the grandeur of the scene may perhaps be diminished after a long fit of dry weather. Such a drought does not however often occur in this part of the country.

HAVING satisfied our curiosity, or rather staid as long as our time would permit, for we could have contemplated these scenes four hours, we proceeded to Blair, a poor village, with a mean-looking church, resembling an English barn. The only objects meriting the attention of the stranger, are Blair Castle, or Athol House, a seat of the Duke of Athol, and the surrounding pleasure grounds. The house stands on an extensive plain,* sur-

* The reader will undoubtedly have observed that the ancient Celtic names of places and things, are generally short descriptions of them, like the new chemical nomenclature, or else originate from some remarkable circumstance or transaction. This gives to the Gaelic a particularly expressive energy. *Blair* properly signifies a plain clear of woods; *Athol* is a corruption of *Adh-oll*. *Adh* signifies happiness or pleasure, and *oll* signifies great; so that *Blair-Adh-oll*, the name of the fine valley extending from this place to Dunkeld, probably means the great pleasant plain, which is very descriptive of it.

Drawn by W.H. Watts

Engraved by Wm Green.

Children Full of Beauty

rounded by mountains; it was formerly a lofty edifice, as well as a place of great strength; and being the only fortress of consequence in these parts, was considered of great importance, and had its share in every disturbance of the times. In the year 1644, the garrison ventured to check the career of the celebrated Marquis of Montrose, but he besieged it, and took it by assault; after which he was joined by a considerable body of the Athol vassals, to whose bravery he was indebted for the victory he obtained at Tibbirmoor. About ten years after, it was taken by storm by Colonel DANIEL, an officer in CROMWELL'S army. In 1689, it occasioned, as Mr. PENNANT observes, one of the greatest events of the time, being the cause that brought on the celebrated battle of Killicranky, which will be afterwards more particularly noticed. In the year 1746, it was gallantly defended by Sir ANDREW AGNEW against the rebels, who attacked it twice without success; after the second attack, they retired northward, a few weeks preceding the decisive battle of Culloden.

THE late Duke of Athol, perceiving the seat of his ancestors, and his own favourite residence, continually subject to insults and disturbance on account of its strength, took down its towers, and three of its stories, that it might never again be an object to be garrisoned; this dismantlement has been no improvement to its picturesque appearance: with the materials taken down, a long range of offices has been built on each side of it.

The house at present contains some large and well-furnished apartments, but nothing which can particularly attract the attention of the stranger. From the house we entered, by a little wicket, the flower garden, a pleasant little wilderness, through which a rivulet winds; here are some statues, which it must be confessed are not any acquisition to the scene; among the rest, is a fowler levelling his piece directly at you as you proceed. Following the serpentine walk, which conducted us under a bridge, we entered a deep glen or linn, thickly covered with wood, and along whose sides the walk is carried about a mile, it then goes over the stream by means of a rustic bridge, and is continued down the other side of the glen. In different parts of this walk are placed little rustic temples, and seats; the brook dashing over the rude rocks, forms some pretty cascades. This walk finished the business of the day.

August 2d. We visited the Duke's gardens, which are not very interesting; at one end are a number of leaden statues, representing Harlequin, Columbine, and the rest of the *dramatis personæ*, with some rustic figures. The Duke has been very successful in the cultivation of rhubarb (*Rheum palmatum*), which grows here in as great luxuriance as in any part of the world. The quantities raised have not been exceeded in Britain, and evidently show, that with a very little attention, we need have no recourse to Turkey or India for this drug.

York Cascade.

Published January 1st. 1800, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.

LEAVING the garden, we were conducted along the banks of the Tilt, which runs furiously along its rocky channel; and saw several cascades falling into it from the neighbouring hills. One in particular attracts the attention by the beauty of its woody scenery, and its broken or interrupted falls. This is called the York cascade, in compliment to DRUMMOND, the late archbishop of York. An elegant Chinese bridge is thrown over it, an ornament which some will think out of its place. From a rustic grotto, well suited to the scenery, at a small distance from the York cascade, is a view of another fall, precipitating itself into the Tilt.

THE York cascade, considered as an ornament to pleasure grounds, is undoubtedly beautiful, but it wants sublimity and simplicity. I agree in opinion likewise with Mr. GILPIN, whose taste for the picturesque can seldom be called in question, that the very circumstance of these cascades falling into a river immediately under the eye, detracts from their importance; it makes them appear smaller, by bringing them into comparison with a greater stream. I am convinced that the fall of Foyers, which must strike every observer as a grand object, would lose much of its sublimity could it be seen to fall into Loch Ness; it would then be a drop of water poured into the ocean.

FROM Blair we proceeded along the banks of the Garry, the largest stream in this neighbourhood, and which receives the water of the Tilt, and many other rivulets. These banks are

highly picturesque and beautiful, being thickly covered with fine trees, which now and then afford a sight of the river, and of the hills that seem to close on every side, as if to prevent our proceeding further.

At the distance of about three miles from Blair, we came to a plain of no very great extent, bounded on all sides by high mountains. This was the plain of Killicranky. On an eminence on the left, overlooking this plain, is Urrard, the residence of a Mr. Stewart. At the first view one would think it almost impossible to get out of this valley, it being blocked up, on every side, by steep hills, finely covered with wood; a winding road may however be perceived on the side of one of the hills, which affords the only exit or entrance. This is the celebrated pass of Killicranky,* which strongly marks the entrance into the highlands, as well as the difference in the appearance of the two countries situated to the northward and southward of it. There are two remarkable passes of this kind, as has been formerly noticed; Killicranky on the east, and Glencoe on the west: to the north of these, the chains of stupendous mountains which compose this romantic country begin; so that they may

* According to the reverend J. M'Logan, minister of Blair, a gentleman well versed in Celtic literature, Killicranky is a corruption of *Coille-croithnuich*, or the wood of trembling, from its awful appearance. (Stat. Account.) Some of my readers may think that I have introduced too much of the Celtic etymology in this work, but I am clearly of opinion, with Mr. M'Logan, that it is necessary to ascertain these derivations now, as the country *senachies*, or historians, who can best account for these things, are becoming less numerous, and the next generation will perhaps present few who will trouble themselves about Celtic etymology.

be looked upon as the natural boundaries between the highlands and lowlands. The country, however, takes the name of Highlands as far as Dunkeld on this side of the island, and Loch Lomond on the west, because Gaelic is the common language of both these places.

In a military light, the pass of Killicranky has always been considered as a very formidable defile, and may with propriety be termed the Caledonian Thermopyle. It may be defended by a small body of men against almost any number, because few of the most numerous army could come into action. In the last rebellion, a body of Hessians having been detached into these parts of Scotland, made a full pause at this streight, and refused to march further; it seemed to them the *ne plus ultra* of habitable country *.

It was in the reign of king William that the celebrated battle to which I before alluded, was fought on the plain of Killicranky. The only spirited attempt made in this reign in favour of the exiled family of Stewart, was that by Viscount Dundee, in whom all the hopes of James and his party were now centred. This nobleman, who had assembled a considerable number of highlanders, resolved to attack General Mackay, on an assurance he had received by message, that the regiment of Scottish dragoons would desert that officer, and join him in the action. Mackay having received intimation of this design,

* Gilpin.

immediately decamped, and by long marches retired before Viscount Dundee, until he was reinforced by Ramsay's dragoons, and another regiment of English infantry; he then faced about, and Dundee in his turn retreated to Lochaber. Lord MURRAY, son of the Marquis of Athol, assembled his vassals, to the number of twelve hundred, for the service of the regency; but he was betrayed by one of his dependents, who seized the castle of Blair for Dundee, and prevailed upon the Athol men to disperse, rather than fight against James, who, he said, was their lawful sovereign.

DUNDEE was by this time reduced to great difficulty and distress. His men had not for many weeks tasted bread or salt, or any drink but water; instead of five hundred infantry, three hundred horse, with a supply of arms, ammunition, and provisions, which James had promised to send from Ireland, he received a reinforcement of three hundred naked recruits; the transports with the stores having fallen into the hands of the English. He bore this mortifying disappointment without repining, and, far from abandoning himself to despair, began his march to Blair castle, which was threatened with a siege by General Mackay. On reaching this fortress from the north, he received intelligence that the enemy had entered the pass of Killicranky, and were in full march to Blair; he resolved to give them battle without delay, and immediately advanced. The two armies met in the plain of Killicranky, and a furious engagement ensued, though not of long duration. The highlanders

having received and returned the fire of the English, fell in among them sword in hand, with such fury, that the foot were utterly routed in seven minutes. The dragoons fled at the first charge, in the utmost consternation. Dundee's horse, which did not exceed a hundred, broke through Mackay's own regiment; the Earl of Dumbarton, at the head of a few volunteers, made himself master of the artillery: twelve hundred of Mackay's forces were killed on the spot, five hundred taken prisoners, and the rest fled with great precipitation for some hours, till they were rallied by their valiant commander. Nothing could be more complete or decisive than the victory which the highlanders obtained; yet it was dearly purchased; the life of Dundee, their beloved commander, was the price they paid for it; he fell by a random shot in the engagement; and his fate produced such confusion in his army as prevented all pursuit. He possessed an enterprising spirit, undaunted courage, inviolable fidelity, and was peculiarly qualified to command the people who fought under his banner. He was the life and soul of the cause which he espoused, which after his death daily declined into ruin and disgrace. He was succeeded in command by Colonel CANNON, who landed the reinforcement from Ireland; but all his designs miscarried;* so that the clans, wearied with repeated misfortunes, laid down their arms by degrees, and took the benefit of the pardon offered by William, to those who would submit within a specified time, as was observed in speaking of the massacre of Glencoe. A small mount near the ground where the battle

* Smollet's History of England, vol. i.

began, is called Mount Clavers; a number of human bones have been found in it in digging for gravel. The skeleton of a man was found in a garret at Urrard, some years after the battle, supposed to have been the bones of a soldier who had taken refuge there *.

On leaving the pass of Killicranky, we perceived on our right, directly below us, a bridge over the Garry; over this we went to see the Fall of the Tummel, which is about a mile and half distant from hence. As we approached this river, accompanied by a gardener who lives in a cottage on the western bank of the Garry, we found the scenery exceedingly wild and picturesque. The grounds belong to Dr. Stewart of Perth, but Sir James Pulteney has obtained a lease of them, and intends to build a house, and ornament the grounds; which may certainly be rendered equal to any in Britain, if the improvements are made with taste, for here is capability for every thing. The irregular and varied surface of the ground covered with weeping birch; the Tummel rolling furiously along, and forming a fine cascade, together with the wild mountain scenery, constitute all that a landscape gardener could desire, and which the hand of a Brown or a Repton would have quickly transformed into a paradise.

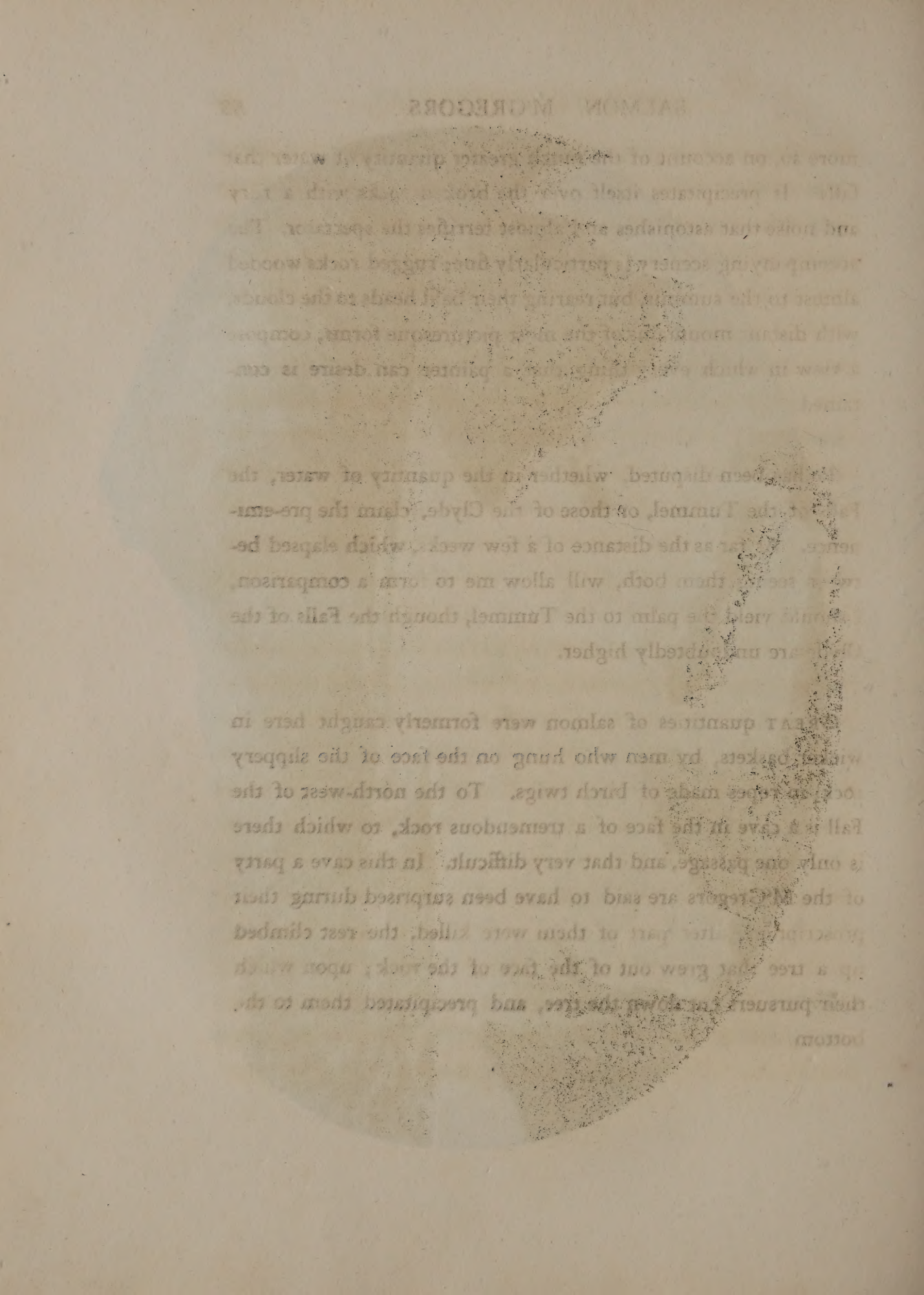
The Fall of the Tummel, though by no means so high as those of Bruir and Foyers, is nevertheless equally grand, if not

* Stat. Account of Moulin.

Drawn by W.Kelly.

Engraved by W.Greatbach.

Exit of the Tunnel.



more so, on account of the much greater quantity of water that falls. It precipitates itself over the broken rocks with a fury and noise that astonishes and almost terrifies the spectator. The accompanying scenery is particularly fine; rugged rocks wooded almost to the summit, but rearing their bald heads to the clouds, with distant mountains of the most picturesque forms, compose a view in which every thing that a painter can desire is contained.

It has been disputed, whether in the quantity of water, the Falls of the Tummel, or those of the Clyde, claim the pre-eminence. As far as the distance of a few weeks, which elapsed between seeing them both, will allow me to form a comparison, I should yield the palm to the Tummel, though the Falls of the Clyde are undoubtedly higher.

Great quantities of salmon were formerly caught here in wicker baskets, by men who hung on the face of the slippery rock, in ropes made of birch twigs. To the north-west of the Fall is a cave in the face of a tremendous rock, to which there is only one passage, and that very difficult. In this cave a party of the M'Gregors are said to have been surprised during their proscription; after part of them were killed, the rest climbed up a tree that grew out of the face of the rock; upon which their pursuers cut down the tree, and precipitated them to the bottom.

A LITTLE below the Falls, the Tummel mixes its waters with the Garry. Near this junction is Faskally, the seat of Mr. ROBERTSON, delightfully situated. After the Tummel unites with the Garry, its character seems entirely changed; before this, it was a furious and impetuous torrent, tearing up every thing in its way, and precipitating itself headlong from rock to rock, as if regardless of the consequences; it now becomes a sober and stately stream, rolling along its waters with majesty.

THE banks of the Tummel, along which we rode, are extremely rich, and the river meanders through a fine valley; now dividing its streams, and forming little islands; now running in a fine broad sheet. Though the Tummel is smaller than the Garry, yet it gives its name to the river formed by their union, because it can trace its origin farther back than the Garry, which is an upstart stream, formed of the waters of the neighbouring hills; while the source of the Tummel is a considerable lake, in its course from which several distant streams contribute to swell its pedigree. It may indeed be observed, that rivers in their origin and progress, and even in the features of their character, bear no inconsiderable resemblance to the life of man; this similarity is beautifully traced by the celebrated natural historian Pliny.

"THE river," says he, "springs from the earth, but its origin is in heaven. Its beginnings are insignificant, and its infancy frivolous; it plays along the flowers of a meadow; it waters a garden;

or turns a little mill. Gathering strength in its youth, it becomes wild and impetuous; impatient of the restraints which it still meets with among its native mountains, it is restless and fretful; quick in its turnings, and unsteady in its course. Now it is a roaring cataract, tearing up and overturning whatever opposes its progress, and shooting, as if desperate, headlong down a rock. It then becomes a sullen and gloomy pool, buried at the bottom of a glen. Recovering breath by repose, it again dashes along, till tired of the uproar and mischief, it quits all that it has swept along, and leaves the opening of the valley strewed with rejected waste. Now quitting its retirement, it comes abroad into the world, journeying with more prudence and discretion, through cultivated fields; yielding to circumstances, and winding round what would trouble it to overwhelm and remove. It passes through populous cities, and all the busy haunts of men, tendering its services on every side, and becomes the support and ornament of the country. Now increased by numerous alliances, and advanced in its course of existence, it becomes grave and stately in its motions, loves peace and quiet; and, perfectly undisturbed by those rains and storms which formerly swelled it into torrents, in majestic silence it rolls on its mighty waves, till it be laid at rest in the vast abyss."

The property of the Duke of Athol in this district is very extensive, and his influence in proportion. Before the abolition of vassalage, he could with ease bring two or three thousand men to the field, still leaving a sufficient number to cultivate the

ground. In the extensive forests are great numbers of roebucks, and red deer, which used formerly to be hunted with all the parade of an eastern monarch. The present Duke frequently amuses himself for weeks together with hunting the red deer; a diversion which he pursues with ardour; not indeed attended by hundreds and thousands of followers, but by six or seven active men, all clad in the highland dress, which he himself wears on such occasions.

As a specimen of the magnificent style in which these chieftains formerly lived, I shall transcribe the account of a hunt given by the Earl of Athol, near Blair, for the amusement of JAMES V. from Sir DAVID LINDSAY'S history.

"THE Earl of Athol, hearing of the King's coming, made great provision for him in all things pertaining to a prince, so that he was as well served and eased, with all things necessary to his estate, as he had been in his own palace of Edinburgh. For I heard say, this noble Earl gart make a curious palace to the king, his mother, and to the embassador, where they were so honourably eased and lodged as they had been in England, France, Italy, or Spain, concerning the time and equivalent, for their hunting and pastime; which was builded in the midst of a fair meadow, a fair palace of green timber, wind with green birks, that were green both under and above, which was fashioned in four quarters, and in every quarter and nuik thereof a great round, as it had been a block-house, which was lofted and gested

the space of three house height; the floors laid with green scarets, medwart, and flowers, that no man knew whereon he zeid, but as he had been in a garden. Further, there were two great rounds in ilk side of the gate, and a great portcullis of tree, falling down with the manner of a barrace, with a draw-bridge, and a great stank of water, sixteen foot deep, and thirty foot of breadth. And also this palace within was hung with fine tapestry, and arrasses of silk, and lighted with fine glass windows, in all airths; that this palace was pleasantly decored, with all necessaries pertaining to a prince, as it had been his own palace royal at home. Further, this earl gart make such provision for the king and his mother, and the embassador, that they had all manner of meats, drinks, and delicates, that were to be gotten, at that time, in all Scotland, either in burgh or land; that is to say, all kind of drink, as ale, beer, wine, both white and claret, malvery, muscadel, hippocras, aqua vitæ. Further, there was of meats, wheat bread, main-bread, and gingerbread; with fleshes, beef, mutton, lamb, veal, venison, goose, grice, capon, coney, cran, swan, partridge, plover, duck, drake, brissel-cock, and pawnes, black cock and muir fowl, cappercallies; and also the stanks that were round about the palace were full of all delicate fishes, as salmonds, trouts, perches, pikes, eels, and all other kind of delicate fishes, that could be gotten in fresh waters; and all ready for the banket. Syne there were proper stewards, cunning baxters, excellent cooks, and potingars, with confections and drugs for their desarts; and the halls and chambers were prepared with costly bedding, vessel, and napery, according for a

king, so that he wanted none of his orders, more than he had been at home, in his own palace. The king remained in this wilderness, at the hunting, the space of three days and three nights, and his company, as I have shewn. I heard men say, it cost the Earl of Athol, every day, in expenses, a thousand pounds."*

If such was the expense at that time, what would it have been at the present day! As a greater compliment to his majesty, the whole of the building, with all its costly furniture, was, as soon as he had left it, set on fire; and on looking back from a hill on the road, he saw the whole enveloped in smoke and flame.

The ride from Blair to Dunkeld, which is twenty miles, is by much the most beautiful of any we had met with in our tour, and we should have been very sorry to have missed it, which would have been the case, if, agreeably to our first intention, we had gone from Blair to Taymouth.

About eight miles above Dunkeld, the Tay receives the Tummel, and by this union becomes one of the finest rivers in Britain; the waters frequently separating and uniting again, form several beautiful islands. Its banks are in general richly wooded, but in one part was an opening, whence we had a fine view of this noble river, meandering through the fertile plain called

* Lindsay's History of Scotland.

Drawn by W. Havell.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

Published 1st May 1815.

the Blair of Athol; the view was closed by picturesque mountains; down the side of one a cloud was descending, which added to the sublimity of the scene. We gazed on this view for some time, and my friend could not resist the temptation of sketching it: the annexed plate will give a much better idea of it than any verbal description.

As we approached Dunkeld, the woods began to thicken, and the forest became more majestic, and dark with shade, till the road appeared like an avenue.

It was rather late when we arrived at Dunkeld, so that we had only time to take a short view of the city, as it is generally called, though it is a very small place, but it was formerly an episcopal see, and on that account was entitled to the appellation. There is, indeed, reason to believe that it occupied more space than it does at present; for during the commotions of 1689, the greatest part of the houses were burnt by an irritated and licentious soldiery, and such of them as stood to the west and north-west of the cathedral have not been rebuilt, but the ground now forms part of the Duke of Athol's pleasure grounds, or policy, as it is called, in Scotland.

The name appears to have undergone, in the course of ages, a considerable change; in ancient records it is frequently written *Dunkelden:* it was also sometimes written *Dunechald*, or *Dunechalden;* which latter, as is observed in the statistical account of

Dunkeld, bears a closer resemblance, both in orthography and sound, to the words from which they are derived, than the former. This is equally true, whether with one class of Gaelic etymologists, the name be considered as derived from *Dun-ghaeldhun*, which signifies the fortress of the Gaels of the hills, or with another class, from *Dun-chalden*, the hill of hazels.

DUNKELD is situated on the north side of the Tay; it consists of one street, which contains some good houses; the number of inhabitants is about a thousand: some linen is manufactured here, though the quantity is not considerable.

THIS place is much resorted to in summer, by consumptive patients, chiefly for the opportunity of drinking goats' whey. The air blowing from the Highland hills is extremely pure and exhilarating, and seems to contain at least its share of *oxygen gas*, or vital air, a circumstance which should render it unfavourable to consumptive patients, if the ingenious theory of Dr. BEDDOES be well founded. There are, however, many diseases of the nervous class, in which the serenity of mind, produced by the contemplation of the charming scenery, the purity of the air, and gentle exercise, will afford relief.

AUGUST 3d. The first object that attracted our attention in the morning, was the ruined abbey, of which we had a good view from our window at the inn; we afterwards inspected it more particularly, in the company of one of the Duke of Athol's

Dunkeld Cathedral.

Drawn by W.H.Watts.

Engraved by Wm Green.

gardeners, an intelligent and unassuming man, who conducted us over the pleasure grounds and improvements, and pointed out to us with much attention the picturesque scenery about Dunkeld.

THIS abbey has once been a fine pile of building, though now much dilapidated; the architecture is partly Gothic and partly Saxon, like most of the old abbeys. What remain of it are the tower, the two side aisles, and the nave of the church; these are in ruins, excepting the quire of the cathedral, which is converted into a parish church, and forms a sufficiently commodious place of worship. This quire was begun by Bishop SINCLAIR, and finished by him in the year 1350. In the middle of the eastern gable is to be seen a part of the old wall of the abbey of Culdees, which stood there before the present cathedral was built. The windows of this part, which were originally Gothic, were modernized and diminished in size in the year 1762, when the church was repaired; which has injured their appearance exceedingly; for the old Gothic framing remains, and the interval between it and the glass is filled up with brick-work.

ON the north side of the quire is the chapter-house, which was built by Bishop LAUDER in the year 1469. Above is a chamber occupied by the Duke as a charter room, and below is a vault, which is the burial place of the family of Athol. Out of this part we were conducted into the aisle or body of the cathedral, the ruins of which are exceedingly fine. At the west end are the remains of the large window, which appears to have

been richly ornamented with Gothic work, but has suffered much from time, and the ruthless hands of the reformers. The tower, which stands at the west end of the north aisle, is very elegant; it was begun by Bishop LAUDER in 1469, and finished by Bishop BROWN in 1501. The most remarkable circumstance respecting this tower, is a singular rent, beginning at the bottom of the uppermost window, and running down the middle of the wall, if I remember right, to the bottom. It is about two inches in width, but we could obtain no account of the time at which it happened, nor of the cause of it. It is conjectured by some to have been owing to a partial sinking of the foundation.*

IN a wall of the south aisle is a monument which has been erected over the grave of one of the bishops, whose figure, in his robes, still lies in the niche that had been cut out for it. The area of this part of the building is used as a burial ground by the inhabitants of Dunkeld.

AT the gate of the church-yard are seen two large stones with "shapeless sculpture deck'd," though so much defaced, that little can be made of them. The figures on one of them seem to have been intended for the twelve apostles; the other is in the form of a cross.

A PERSON of the name of MARY SCOT was buried near this church in 1728, for whom a singular epitaph was composed, but

* See Stat. Account of Dunkeld.

never engraven on her tomb-stone, though it has been frequently mentioned as copied from it.* One of her descendants is still alive, and is said to have seen her. Though this epitaph is not remarkable for the elegance of its composition, yet as it contains a singular statement of chronological facts, I think my readers will not be displeased by its insertion.

STOP, passenger, until my life you read,
The living may get knowledge from the dead.
Five times five years unwedded was my life;
Five times five years I was a virtuous wife;
Ten times five years I wept a widow's woes;
Now, tir'd of human scenes, I here repose.
Betwixt my cradle and my grave were seen
Seven mighty kings of Scotland, and a queen;
Full twice five years the Commonwealth I saw;
Ten times the subjects rise against the law;
And, which is worse than any civil war,
A king arraign'd before the subjects' bar.
Swarms of sectarians, hot with hellish rage,
Cut off his royal head upon the stage.
Twice did I see old prelacy pull'd down,
And twice the cloak did sink beneath the gown.
I saw the Stewart race thrust out; nay, more,
I saw our country sold for English ore;

* Stat. Account of Dunkeld.

Our numerous nobles who have famous been,
Sunk to the lowly number of sixteen.
Such desolations in my days have been,
I have an end of all perfection seen.

THE buildings connected with the church formerly occupied a considerable space, containing the monastery, or cells of the monks, with houses for the abbot and bishop, but of these "not a wreck is left behind." This is not peculiar to this abbey; most others have shared the same fate, both in England and Scotland, particularly the latter country. The habitations of the monks were destroyed by the reformers, while in general the places of worship were spared. Indeed JOHN KNOX used in a fury to exclaim, "Down with the nests, and the rooks will fly off;" an exhortation that was eagerly listened to, and cheerfully executed by his zealous followers. Sometimes, however, they did not spare the temple of God itself.

VERY near the abbey is the mansion of the Duke, a plain neat house, without any of the magnificence generally seen in a ducal residence. The situation of this house must, however, strike the stranger as injudicious, being so very near a town which is by no means remarkable for its neatness, when it might easily have been placed on a more distant part of the fine lawn on which it stands. It appears formerly to have been a town-house of the family of Athol, who used to come down from Blair to spend

the winter at Dunkeld, before the rage for London deprived this country of its wealthiest inhabitants. It seems not unlikely that some of the Dukes of Athol had obtained a grant from the Abbot to fix his habitation here, upon the territory belonging to the church, and this may account for the situation of the house. At the Reformation, the greatest part of the church property in Scotland was seized on by the neighbouring nobles, or ceded to them by the crown; while in England, HENRY VIII. took the greatest part of it into his own hands; this appears clearly from the accounts of different historians.* If the town, as has sometimes been proposed, was removed to the other side of the river Tay, the situation of this house would be rendered much more pleasant, at the same time the town would receive several advantages, particularly if a bridge was to be built over the Tay.

THE gardens abound with fruit, which arrives at greater perfection, even in the open air, than could be expected. In a corner of the old gardens is an artificial mound, called Stanley Hill, which was raised by JAMES, Duke of Athol, about the year 1730; this mound is cut into several formal terraces, and kept closely shaven by the scythe. It is planted on the north side with trees, and on the south with shrubs; several small pieces of cannon are placed on the terraces, with inscriptions, which show that they have been brought hither from the Isle of Man, of which the Duke is principal proprietor, and was formerly sovereign.

* See Robertson's History of Scotland, vol. i. book iii. and Guthrie, Scotland, article Church.

THROUGH the gardens we were conducted by a gentle winding path, shaded with trees, up the side of one of the steep and rocky hills that screen the valley of Dunkeld, and which is covered with wood to the summit, excepting where the white rocks are seen through the foliage, and give an air of richness and grandeur to the scene. About a third of the way up, is a hermitage, consisting of a room, partly formed by nature, and partly scooped out of the rock by art, with a fire place, a couch of moss, and every convenience that could be wanted by a hermit, and close to the door falls a crystal stream, to supply his simple but salubrious beverage. Proceeding further up the hill, a fine view opens of the rich valley, through which the magnificent Tay winds towards Perth. On the right is the hill of Birnam, rendered classic ground by the magic pen of Shakspeare; its lower parts are covered with wood. On the left side of the valley, and nearly opposite, at the distance of about fifteen miles, is seen the hill of Dunsinan; on this hill stood the castle of Macbeth, of which some ruins still remain.

ASCENDING still higher towards the north-west, we had a very fine view of the vale of Athol, through which we came the preceding day. We saw the windings of the Tummel and the Tay, and the place of their junction was likewise discerned; the whole of this rich view is bounded on the north by those lofty mountains, which form the boundary of the highland country.

FROM this hill we descended by a zig-zag path on the west side, and having traversed some beautiful avenues on the banks of the Tay, we came to Inver Ferry, where we crossed the river, and passed through the village of Inver; we soon afterwards entered a path which conducted us along the banks of the Bran, a very turbulent stream, that falls into the Tay nearly opposite Dunkeld; pursuing this path, the sides of which are decorated with shrubs and flowers, ornaments quite out of their place, we were amused by the hoarse murmuring of the Bran, dashing along its rocky channel. After having walked near a mile, we came to a neat parterre, ornamented in the style of ground before a citizen's box; at the end of this stands a building, which has the appearance of a small temple, and which purposely hides, from the present view, one of the most charming scenes in nature.

ON entering this temple, directly opposite is seen a picture of the aged OSSIAN, singing, and some female figures listening to the tales "of the days that are past;" his hunting spear, bow and arrows, are beside him, as well as his faithful dog. This picture, which is well designed and well painted, is the production of the late Mr. STEWART.

ON the picture being removed, by sliding into the wainscot, you perceive that what before appeared to be the temple, is only a vestibule, leading to an elegant apartment, ornamented with exquisite taste. This building is called Ossian's Hall, or The

Hermitage, but the ideas annexed to either of these names are by no means applicable to it.

FROM the windows of this apartment, one of the most beautiful and sublime views bursts on the sight, that the most vivid imagination can conceive. The water of the Bran, after murmuring along the rugged rocks that fill its channel, precipitates itself down a craggy steep, forming one of the most beautiful cascades in nature, the water being broken into a thousand different streams by the abrupt points of the rocks opposing its passage. Indeed, nothing can be more picturesque than the whole scene; the water appearing above the cascade, fretting and foaming among huge fragments of rock, and then dashing down in different directions, stunning the ears with its noise, while the spray which rises from it gives a misty obscurity to the surrounding woods, and an air of magic to the whole, such as words cannot describe. A faithful representation is however given by my friend Mr. WATTS, from which the reader will form a tolerable idea of the scene. Mr. GILPIN, whose taste must be admired by all lovers of picturesque beauty, speaks of this scene as one of the most interesting of the kind he ever saw. "The whole scene and its accompaniments," he observes, "are not only grand, but picturesquely beautiful in the highest degree. The *composition* is perfect, but yet the parts are so intricate, so various, and so complicated, that I never found any piece of nature less obvious to imitation. It would cost the readiest pencil a summer's day to bring off a good resemblance. My poor

Drawn by WILKIE.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

The Cavalcade at Dunkeld.

tool was so totally disheartened, that I could not bring it even to make the attempt. The broad features of a mountain, the shape of a country, or the line of a lake, are matters of easy execution. A trifling error escapes notice. But these high finished pieces of Nature's more complicated workmanship, in which the beauty, in a great degree, consists in the finishing, and in which every touch is expressive, especially of the spirit, activity, clearness, and variety of the agitated water, are among the most difficult efforts of the pencil." *

WITHOUT intending any disparagement to Mr. Gilpin, whose powers as an artist I have frequently admired, particularly in his representations of the simple scenes to which he has alluded; I will venture to say, that if the accompanying representation of this scene should ever fall in his way, it will not fail to remind him strongly of the original which gave him so much pleasure, though it did not cost my companion one-sixteenth part of a summer's day. But to a person accustomed to trace all the varieties of the human face, every other part of nature, however complicated, is easy; and though a landscape painter may give an admirable softness to his distant hills, and charm the eye by his disposition of light and shade, yet in the correct representation of scenes like this, he will be excelled by the portrait painter.

THE sides and ceiling of the room are embossed with mirrors, in which the cascade is seen by reflexion, sometimes running

* Observations relative chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, vol. i. p. 122.

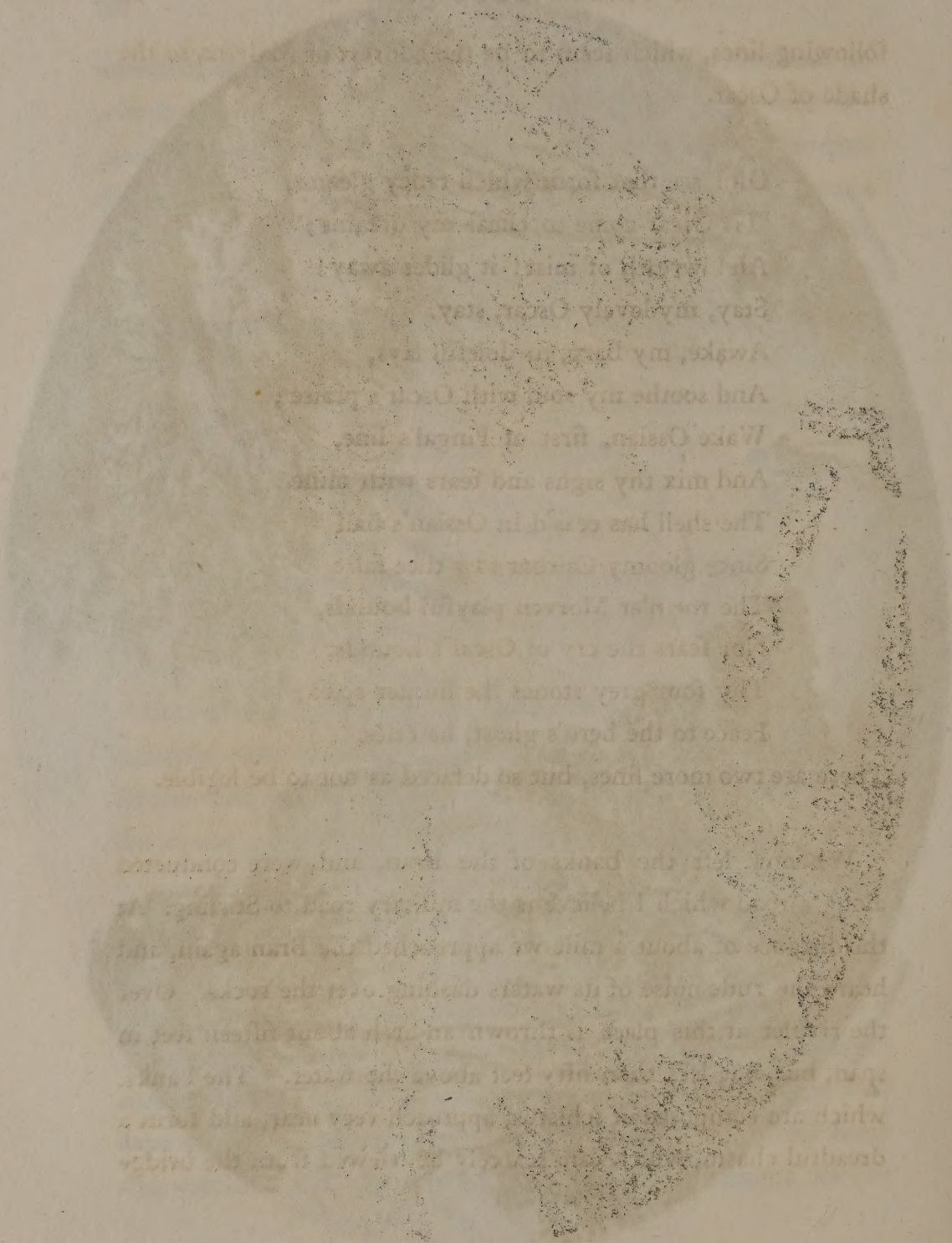
upwards, contrary to the direction of gravity, and sometimes in a horizontal stream over the head. Such a room, however elegant, is ill suited to the scenery, and in a great measure destroys the sensations which the latter is calculated to inspire; a rude grotto, or "hall of shells," would have been a much better decoration, and instead of the flowery parterre and walk that leads to it, a simple path, so conducted as to shew, in the most advantageous manner, the different appearances of the river, would have been much more appropriate. Grand and sublime scenes like this, accord but ill with the decorations of art.

"If art
E'er dares to tread; 'tis with unsandal'd foot,
Printless, as if the place were holy ground."

JUST above the cascade, is a little rustic seat, from which is a beautiful view of Ossian's Hall, situated on the top of a perpendicular cliff, forty feet high, and the arch which is thrown over the stream; the whole forming a very fine picture.

LEAVING with regret this charming scenery, we proceeded along a path carried not far from the banks of the Bran. At the distance of about half a mile from the cascade, we came to a cave, partly natural and partly the work of art, with different apartments in it. It is called Ossian's Cave, and might well have served as a retreat or occasional residence of the Celtic bard and warrior. On the side of the principal apartment are the

Drawn by W.T. Wood.
Engraved by Wm. Green.



following lines, which seem to be the address of Malvina to the shade of Oscar.

Oh! see that form which fancy gleams,
'Tis Oscar come to chear my dreams;
Ah! wreath of mist! it glides away!
Stay, my lovely Oscar, stay.
Awake, my harp, to doleful lays,
And soothe my soul with Oscar's praise;
Wake Ossian, first of Fingal's line,
And mix thy sighs and tears with mine.
The shell has ceas'd in Ossian's hall
Since gloomy Cairbar saw thee fall:
The roe o'er Morven playful bounds,
Nor fears the cry of Oscar's hounds.
Thy four grey stones the hunter spies:
Peace to the hero's ghost, he cries.

There are two more lines, but so defaced as not to be legible.

We now left the banks of the Bran, and were conducted along a road which I believe is the military road to Stirling. At the distance of about a mile we approached the Bran again, and heard the rude noise of its waters dashing over the rocks. Over the rivulet at this place is thrown an arch about fifteen feet in span, but not less than fifty feet above the water. The banks, which are composed of schistus, approach very near, and form a dreadful chasm, which can scarcely be viewed from the bridge

without emotions of terror. This bridge, which is nearly formed by nature, the sides of the rock approaching within less than fifteen feet of each other, is called the Rumbling Bridge, on account of the rumbling noise made by water rushing through this narrow chasm.

JUST above this bridge, the water of the Bran shooting over a precipice, forms a very fine fall about fifty feet in height, which is broken and turned in different directions by the rocks that oppose it, dashing its waters into a fine spray which arises above the bridge, particularly when the water is swollen by rains. We were informed by our guide that when this spray is copious, and the sun shines upon it, the spectator sees the vapour luminous, and tinged with the beautiful colours of the rainbow. This phenomenon we had not the pleasure of seeing, but could easily conceive that this must be the case when viewed from certain situations, from the principles of refraction, and the analogy of the rainbow. The water having fallen into a deep and narrow glen, runs under a large stone suspended between the rocks, and forming a kind of natural bridge.

THE Bran very much resembles the Bruir; the channels of both are very rugged, and their whole course is a continued scene of turbulence and violence, till they form an alliance with some more sober stream. The restless waters of the Bran are soon lulled to peace in the tranquil bosom of the Tay.

Neil Gow.

Drawn by W.H.Watts.

Engraved by Wm. Green

Published January 2d. 1800, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.

THE greatest part of the day had now been spent, and with much satisfaction, in viewing the interesting scenery in the neighbourhood of Dunkeld. Having seen every thing that deserved attention, we returned nearly by the same road, crossed the Tay at Inver, and took a late dinner at Dunkeld, after which we were favoured with a visit from NEIL GOW, a singular and well-known character, and a celebrated performer on the violin. When I call him a celebrated performer, I do not mean that he can execute the sweet Italian airs with the touch of a Cramer. His only music is that of his native country, which he has acquired chiefly by the ear, being entirely self-taught; but he plays the Scotch airs with a spirit and enthusiasm peculiar to himself. He is now in his seventy-second year, and has played publicly at assemblies, &c. on this instrument, for more than half a century. He is a native of the village of Inver, where he resides, and has acquired, by tuning his lyre, what he considers as an independence, and which is therefore truly such. He favoured us with several pieces of Scotch music: he excels most in the strathspeys, which are jigs played with a peculiar spirit and life; but he executes the laments, or funeral music, with a great deal of pathos. A fine portrait of this noted character has been painted by Mr. RAEBURN of Edinburgh, who may properly be called the Scotch Reynolds. The hasty sketch taken by Mr. WATTS, and here presented to the reader, is however a pretty good likeness.

In the evening there was a dancing-school ball at the inn, to which we were politely invited, and where we had again an opportunity of hearing Neil Gow, and observing the superiority of the highlanders to our countrymen in dancing; some of the children whom we saw dance this evening, would have cut no disgraceful figure on the stage.

August 4th. We left Dunkeld early in the morning, for Kenmore, distant twenty-four miles: the object of this journey was to see Loch Tay, and Lord Breadalbane's seat at Taymouth; we crossed the Tay at Inver Ferry, and rode along its western banks, which are very beautiful, the country being finely wooded, but the roads are extremely bad. We passed several good houses, and having rode about eight miles, saw the junction of the Tay with the Tummel: here the Tay, whose direction had hitherto been nearly from north to south, turns westward. After travelling about two miles further along its banks, we came to Balnegarde, a very indifferent public house, where we breakfasted, and were charged very exorbitantly, but which charge we thought proper not to pay. This is mentioned merely to show the impropriety of submitting to such charges on the road, whatever be the fortune or condition of the traveller, it being a bad example, and highly injurious to the community.

Proceeding still along the banks of the Tay, after a ride of about eight miles from Balnegarde, we came to Aberfeldie,

Fall of Monefs.

Published January 1st 1800, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.

an improving little village, where some branches of the muslin manufacture are carried on to a considerable extent by some Glasgow manufacturers.

We left our horses at the village, and proceeded up the side of the burn of Moness, to see the Falls made by this rivulet about a mile and a half above Aberfeldie, which had been described to us, by a gentleman at Dunkeld, as very beautiful.

We took a guide from Aberfeldie, who conducted us along a path by the side of the rivulet, through a deep glen, wooded to the top with hazel and birch. The first fall is by no means destitute of beauty, and we should have thought it an object of considerable sublimity, had we not been lately accustomed to so much fine scenery of this kind. Just above this first fall, a little rivulet on the left hand precipitates itself into the burn, which forms some very beautiful cascades. Crossing this rivulet, and advancing along the bottom of the glen, we soon came to the finest part of the scenery, consisting of three successive falls, the height of which is very great. The sides of the glen or linn, which is called the den of Moness, are here stupendously high, and fringed with trees on each side, the branches of which meet and intermingle. As far as can be seen, you observe the whitened foam falling as it were from the sky, and rushing down from rock to rock, the water falls with horrid roar into a deep chasm below. In short, I think that no person who views these falls, will hesitate to pronounce them, in the

words of the celebrated Welsh Tourist, "an epitome of every thing that can be admired in the curiosity of water-falls."*

THE rocks which form the sides of this glen, are chiefly micaceous schistus. The grounds lately belonged to Mr. FLEMING, of Moness, but are now the property of the Earl of Breadalbane.

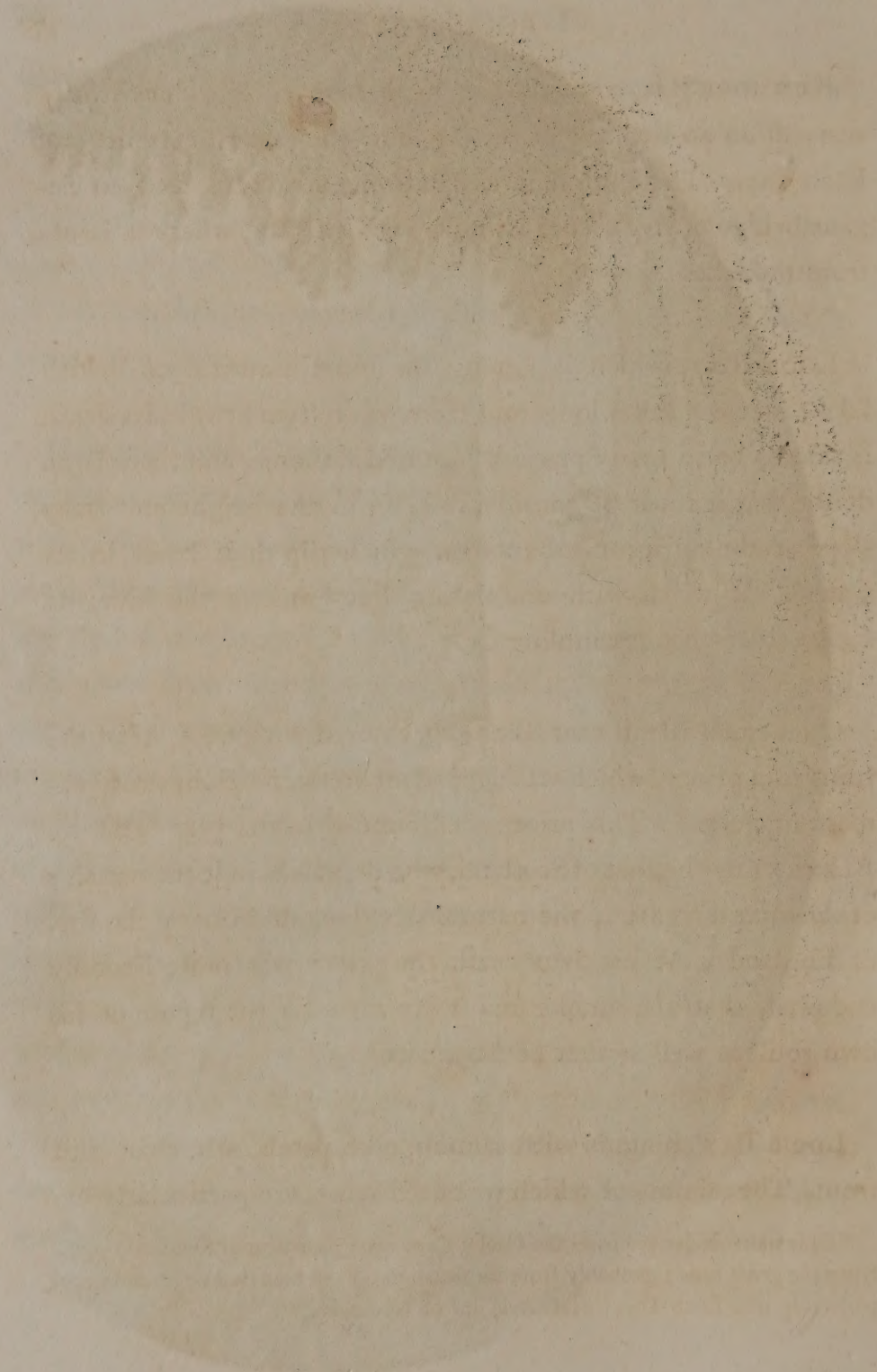
HAVING been highly gratified by these falls, notwithstanding the many grand and beautiful scenes of this kind which had within the last week fallen in our way, we pursued our journey from Aberfeldie towards Kenmore, six miles distant, still keeping close to the beautiful banks of the Tay. About three miles and a half from Aberfeldie, we passed a Druidical temple on our left, of considerable magnitude, and very entire; we saw a smaller one likewise between Inver and Balnegarde. Soon after we passed this temple, we entered the extensive pleasure grounds of Lord Breadalbane, and saw the house of Taymouth, the residence of this nobleman, overtopped by a grove of venerable trees, which nearly covered the long range of offices. Behind these trees is the Tay, beyond which are mountains covered with wood to the summit. The middle part of the house is old, and built in the form of a castle, with turrets at the corners. This being found too small to accommodate the family, two modern wings have been added. Through the lawn is a road which conducted us to Kenmore, about two miles from Taymouth.

* Pennant's Tour.

Drawn by H.C.Hastes.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

Caynwell.



KENMORE* is a small but very neat village, delightfully situated on an isthmus projecting into the eastern extremity of Loch Tay. The church is a handsome structure, and an elegant bridge of five arches is built over the Tay, where it issues from the lake.

LOCH TAY, which is among the most beautiful of British lakes, is fifteen miles long, and from one to two broad. Its depth is said to be in many places a hundred fathoms, and there is no doubt that it must be considerable, from the height and steep slope of the adjacent mountains, which dip their bases in its waters. It winds with undulating lines among the hills, its figure somewhat resembling .

ON a small island near Kenmore, covered with trees, stand the ruins of a priory, which was dependant on the religious establishment of Scone. This priory was founded in the year 1122, by ALEXANDER the first of Scotland, who deposited in it the remains of his queen SYBILL, the natural daughter of HENRY the first of England. At his own death the priory was more liberally endowed, that the monks might say mass for the repose of his own soul, as well as that of his queen.

LOCH TAY abounds with salmon, pike, perch, eels, char, and trout. The salmon, of which we tasted some, are particularly ex-

* This name is derived from the Gaelic *Caen mor* (pronounced Kenmore) signifying *the great head*; probably from its situation on the headland or promontory, projecting into Loch Tay. Stat. Account of Kenmore.

cellent. Lord Breadalbane has the exclusive privilege of fishing there at all seasons. This privilege was granted for the purpose of supplying with fish the monks in the priory on the island, and at the Reformation, or dissolution of the priory, was, along with the island, claimed by this noble family.

THE water of this lake, like some others, has at times suffered violent and unaccountable agitations. The following extract of a letter, written by Mr. Fleming, late minister of Kenmore, in reply to some queries sent him by Professor JOHN PLAYFAIR of Edinburgh, and which is published in the first volume of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, contains the most distinct account of this phenomenon that has been given to the public.

" ON Sunday the 12th of September, 1784, about nine o'clock in the morning, an unusual agitation was observed in Loch Tay, near the village of Kenmore. That village stands at the east end of the lake, having the river, which there issues from the lake, on the north side, and a bay about 460 yards in length, and 200 yards in breadth, on the south. The greater part of this bay is very shallow, being generally no more than two or three feet deep; but before it joins the body of the lake, it suddenly becomes very deep. At the extremity of this bay, the water was observed to retire about five yards within its ordinary boundary, and in four or five minutes, to flow out again. In this manner it ebbed and flowed successively, three or four

times during the space of a quarter of an hour, when all at once the water rushed from the east and west, in opposite currents, towards a line across the bay; and about the edge of the deep, rose in the form of a great wave, to the height of five feet above the ordinary level, leaving the bottom of the bay dry, to the distance of between 90 and 100 yards from its natural boundary. When the opposite currents met, they made a clashing noise, and foamed; and the stronger impulse being from the east, the wave, after rising to its greatest height, rolled westward, but slowly, diminishing as it went, for the space of five minutes, when it wholly disappeared.

"As the wave subsided, the water flowed back with some force, and exceeded its original boundary four or five yards, and again returned, and continued to ebb and flow in this manner for the space of two hours, the ebbings succeeding each other at the distance of about seven minutes, and gradually lessening, till the water settled into its ordinary level.

"At the same time that the undulation was observed in the bay on the south side of the village, the river on the north was seen to run back: the weeds at its bottom, which before pointed with the stream, received a contrary direction, and its channel was left dry above twelve feet from either edge. Under the bridge (which is sixty or seventy yards from the lake) the current failed, and the bed of the river appeared, where there had been eighteen inches of water.

"During the whole time that this phenomenon was observed, the weather was calm. It could barely be perceived that the direction of the clouds was from N. E. The barometer (as far as I can recollect) stood the whole of that and the preceding day, about 29½ inches.

"On the next, and the four succeeding days, an ebbing and flowing was observed nearly about the same time, and for the same length of time, but not at all in the same degree as on the first day. A similar agitation was remarked at intervals, some days in the morning, other days in the afternoon, till the 15th of October, since which time no such thing has been observed.

"I have not heard (although I have made particular inquiry) that any motion of the earth was felt in this neighbourhood, or that the agitation of the water was observed any where but about the village of Kenmore."

On the 13th of July, 1794, Loch Tay experienced agitations similar to those described by Mr. Fleming, but they were neither so violent, nor so long continued. With respect to the cause of these agitations, I cannot venture to hazard even a conjecture.

Being desirous to see the house and grounds of Taymouth, we sent to request permission to do so, which was brought us by Lord Breadalbane's park-keeper, who is appointed to conduct strangers over the improvements. We entered a small gate

Loch Tay

near the inn, and followed a path which led us to the top of a small artificial mount, with sloping sides, like the *glacis* of a fortification. From a seat on this mount is a delightful view. On our left was the village and church of Kenmore; directly before us the bridge, with the Tay issuing from the lake; beyond the bridge was the lake, with the island above described, surrounded by picturesque mountains, particularly Benlawers, a very high hill,* with a rugged top, on the right, and Benmore at a great distance, rearing its blue conical head. Indeed the whole forms as pleasing, tranquil, and picturesque a scene as the imagination can conceive. It fascinated the attention of the Ayrshire bard, who has thus beautifully described it:

Th' outstretching lake, embosom'd 'mong the hills,
The eye with wonder and amazement fills;
The Tay meandring sweet in infant pride,
The palace rising on his verdant side;
The lawns wood-fring'd in nature's native taste;
The hillock's dropt in nature's careless haste:
The arches striding o'er the new-born stream;
The village glittering in the noon-tide beam. †

LEAVING this seat, and proceeding along a smooth grass walk, under lofty trees, we came to the temple of Venus, from which

* The height of this hill is 4015 feet above the level of the sea. Stat. Account of Kenmore.

† Burns' Poems.

we had a very fine view of the lake, nearly the same as that from the seat we had just left. In this temple is a very fine cast from the celebrated Venus de Medicis.

FROM hence we were conducted by a beautiful shaded walk, along the banks of the Tay, towards the house. The branches of the lime trees approach and meet each other over our heads, at a great height, forming a fine gothic avenue, with all the gloomy grandeur of a cathedral. Some very ingenious writers have supposed that such an avenue gave the first hint to the artist who introduced this style of architecture.

THIS avenue is called the *berçeau* walk, and is four hundred and fifty yards long. It has been much blamed by some tourists, as being too artificial; but no person, I think, can enter it without being struck with its magnificence: and there are few, I should imagine, who will not experience a pleasing and awful sensation on contemplating the solemnity of this gothic arch. The walks about Taymouth are all extremely magnificent, and it is in such situations that art exerts itself to advantage. The environs of a mansion are not expected to have the savage rudeness which would suit the hermitage at Dunkeld; all that is required is, that the efforts of art be not trifling and insignificant, but produce an effect corresponding to the surrounding scenery, and the opulence of the proprietor, which certainly has been done here. The hand of a Brown would undoubtedly have given to these grounds more the air of nature, but I question

much if the effect produced upon the mind of a stranger, would have equalled that which he experiences, or at least which I experienced, from the venerable rows of limes, though contrary to the present taste.

BESIDES the clumps and avenues of venerable trees to be met with in the grounds surrounding the house at Taymouth, several of the open spaces contain single trees of very large size, particularly larches and limes, which produce a rich effect. These grounds abound with fallow deer, and there are plenty of roes in the woods.

FROM the berçeau walk we crossed the road, and ascended the hill on the other side, where is a building in the form of a fort, containing one good room. On a platform are some small field and garrison pieces, which are fired on particular occasions. From this fort is a charming view of the house and grounds, the river Tay, the lake, and the surrounding country, but by no means adapted to the pencil, it being what artists call a bird's-eye view.

FROM this hill we descended to the house, the situation of which has likewise been frequently criticised and blamed: had it been placed near the temple of Venus, or where the village of Kenmore stands, the prospect would undoubtedly have been much better; but though I have no doubt that the architect paid more attention to a warm and sheltered situation, than to

the prospect, as was the custom at that time, yet I doubt very much if the pleasure which the inhabitants of this mansion receive from the delightful view of the lake, would not have been greatly diminished by having it always in view.

A LATE elegant writer,* when speaking of music, has observed, that the sweetest and fullest chords must be seldom repeated, otherwise the certain effect is satiety; those who are acquainted with the human heart, need not be told that this observation is not confined to music. In my opinion, it is perfectly applicable to the present case; the most beautiful scene constantly viewed, soon palls on the eye; but a short and pleasant walk conducts the family to a view of the lake, and its fine scenery, whenever they are disposed to enjoy it.

THIS house was originally called Balloch Castle, or the castle at the mouth of the lake. It was built by Sir COLIN CAMPBELL, the sixth knight of Loch-Awe, who died in the year 1583.† The rooms are not large, but well-furnished, and contain some very good pictures, which are the only objects worth the attention of the traveller. Among these pictures are a number of portraits by GEORGE JAMIESON,‡ who has often been called the Scotch Vandyke.

* Dr. Gregory. † Pennant's Tour.

‡ George Jamieson was born at Aberdeen, about the close of the sixteenth century. Having at an early period of life discovered an uncommon genius for portrait-painting, he went abroad, and studied under the celebrated Rubens, making

In the room or hall, into which we were first introduced, is a genealogical tree by this artist, containing twenty heads of the family of Lochaw, very finely painted; and in the same room, and a small parlour, are the following portraits by the same master:

Sir Duncan Campbell.
William Earl of Airth.
John Duke of Rothes.
James Marquis of Hamilton.
Archibald Lord Napier.
William Earl of Marischal.
Earl of Loudon, Lord High Chancellor.
Thomas Lord Binning.
John Earl of Marr.
Sir Robert Campbell.
Sir John Campbell.

In the drawing-room are very fine portraits by Vandyke of two noble brothers, who made a distinguished figure in the time of Charles I. These are, Henry Rich, Earl of Holland, a full

a very great progress in his profession. About the year 1620, he returned to his native city, where he settled as a portrait painter, and married. Jamieson's character and style of painting soon became generally known, and admired all over the kingdom. He appears to have painted a great number of portraits, among which are James VI. and Charles I. It is said that when painting the portrait of Charles I. that prince ordered him to keep on his hat, and owing to this circumstance, or as some have thought, in imitation of his master Rubens, in all the pictures of himself he is represented with his hat on. Besides his works at Taymouth, there are several others in Scotland, of which a list is given, and the names of the persons to whom they belong, in the Statistical Account of Aberdeen.

length, which is esteemed one of the best works of that great master; and Robert Earl of Warwick, his elder brother, who was high Admiral of England, in the service of the parliament. In the dining-room are some family portraits of a later date by eminent painters.

In a small parlour at the west end of the house, among several good pictures, is a fine scripture-piece by West, and in a room at the east end, a most charming picture by Gavin Hamilton, of Scipio restoring the beautiful Spanish captive to her parents and betrothed husband Allucius. The artist seems to have seized the very ideas, and made her countenance speak the sentiments attributed to her by the historian. "Oh! wondrous youth, does not that obliged virgin give you, while she prays to the gods for your prosperity, raptures above all the transports you could have reaped from the possession of her injured person?" It is scarcely necessary to observe, that the relations of the young lady had brought with them a very considerable sum for her ransom; but when they saw that she was restored to them in so generous and godlike a manner, they entreated the conqueror, with great earnestness, to accept that sum as a present, and declared that his compliance would complete their joy and gratitude. Scipio told them that he accepted the gift, and ordered it to be laid at his feet; then, addressing himself to Allucius, "I add," says he, "to the portion which you are to receive from your father-in-law, this sum, which I desire you to accept as a marriage present." The subject is worthy the pencil of any

artist, and in my opinion Mr. Hamilton has done it ample justice. The man who can view this picture without feeling his soul warmed by the generous character of the conqueror,

Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils.

HAVING seen what was remarkable at Taymouth, we returned to Kenmore, and had an opportunity of seeing more of the village than we had been able to do in the preceding part of the day.

THE village of Kenmore is well built, the houses are very comfortable habitations, and the noble proprietor has peopled it with such inhabitants as may be of use in the neighbourhood; there is one mechanic in each of the most useful branches, i. e. one blacksmith, one shoemaker, one tailor, &c. Indeed the character of this nobleman is spoken of with great respect.

YET though he is said to be more indulgent to his tenants than most landlords, we heard of numbers who had left this part of the country for America, and of others who intended to follow their example. His lordship, some years ago, stopped a party of emigrants from some of the northern districts, and settled them advantageously on his own grounds in Glenorchay, a deed worthy of him. It cannot be too often repeated, that proprietors ought to give every reasonable encouragement to their tenants, and particularly to grant them leases, otherwise the temptations held out to them by their transatlantic friends, of

reaping the fruits of their labour, and sitting under their own vine and their own fig-tree, may deprive Britain of a hardy and useful body of men.

> Even now, methinks, as pondering here I stand,
> I see the rural virtues leave the land:
> Down, where yon anchoring vessel spreads the sail,
> That idly waiting, flaps in every gale,
> Downward they move, a melancholy band,
> Pass from the shore, and darken all the strand. *

The highland dress is more common here than in any other part of the country through which we passed. This dress bears a considerable resemblance to that of the ancient Romans, from which it may perhaps have been derived. It consists of a short jacket of tartan or woollen cloth, woven in squares of the most vivid colours, in which green and red are however predominant; the Philabeg, or Kilt, which is a sort of short petticoat reaching to the middle of the thigh, of the same stuff; of hose, or half stockings, which do not reach the knee, knit or wove in diamonds of red and white. They have generally, when dressed, a pouch made of the skin of the badger, fox, or some other animal, hanging before, in which they keep their tobacco and money. They wear a mantle, or plaid of tartan, which is folded in a graceful manner over the shoulder, but covers the whole body when it rains. Instead of a hat they wear a blue bonnet, with a

* Goldsmith.

border of red and white. This dress, which is much more picturesque than the modern, is fast wearing out in the highlands; many dress in the English manner, and still more have a mixture of the highland and English; for instance, many have a hat and short coat, with kilt and hose; while others have no other part of this dress than the hose and bonnet.

AUGUST 5th. The inn at Kenmore is a very comfortable house; here we slept, and after breakfast crossed the Tay, by the bridge at the mouth of the lake, and rode down the northern banks of that river, which are very pleasant, and presented several fine views. After riding about two miles and a half by the side of the Tay, we came to the Lyon, a very fine river, rising from a lake called Loch-lyon, on the borders of Argyleshire, and after having run through a considerable district of very mountainous country, falls into the Tay near this place. Going about a quarter of a mile up the banks of this river, we crossed it by a bridge, and proceeding down the other side, soon came again to the Tay, augmented by its alliance with the Lyon. Shortly afterwards we passed the village of Dull, and after riding a few miles, we came to Castle Menzies, the seat of Sir JOHN MENZIES, a turreted building, surrounded by lofty trees, and screened on the north by a rocky hill wooded to the top; near this castle is the village of Weem or Weyms.

AT the distance of about eighteen miles from Kenmore, we came to Logierait, a village of considerable size, near the con-

flux of the Tay and the Tummel, where we dined, and after dinner surveyed the place, in which we saw nothing remarkable, or worthy of attention.* Among the superstitious customs remaining in the highlands, the following singular one still practised in this neighbourhood, is mentioned in the statistical account of Logierait:

IMMEDIATELY before the celebration of the marriage ceremony, every knot about the bride and bridegroom (garters, shoe-strings, strings of petticoats, &c. is carefully loosened. After leaving the church, the whole company walk round it, keeping the church walls always on the right hand. The bridegroom, however, first retires one way with some young men, to tie the knots that were loosened about him; while the young married woman, in the same manner, retires somewhere else, to adjust the disorder of her dress.

WE ferried over the Tummel, at the distance of about a quarter of a mile from Logierait, and coming into the road from Blair to Dunkeld, which we had travelled before, soon reached the latter place.

AUGUST 6th. Early in the morning we set out for Perth, which is fifteen miles distant; the road is good, and the country pleasant and well cultivated. About two miles from Dunkeld we passed the hill of Birnam, on our right, which is now in a

* This place gave birth to Dr. Adam Ferguson.

great measure denuded of its wood; on the side of this hill has lately been opened a very fine quarry of blue slate.

A LITTLE further on our left, we saw the hospital founded by one of the family of Stewart of Grandtully, for the maintenance of a certain number of poor persons. The house is not at present inhabited, the pensioners choosing rather to live in cottages among their friends, where they enjoy more comfortably the benefit of the small pensions left them by the same benevolent individual.

WE next passed over a moorish track, by no means so well cultivated as that we had left, but soon came to an open plain, in which the progress of agriculture and manufactures was very visible; several bleach grounds and cotton mills are established here.

ON this plain, called the plain of Luncarty, are seen a number of artificial hillocks, or tumuli, which indicate that it has formerly been a field of battle; and history informs us, that an important victory was gained here in the year 976 by the Scots, over the Danes who had invaded the country, and advanced to this distance from the eastern coast. The Danes, at first, had the advantage, and the Scots army, overpowered by numbers and superior discipline, were retreating before their enemies, when the fortune of the day is said to have been changed by the following circumstance: A peasant, who may be called the Cincinnatus of Scotland, happened, with his two sons, to be plough-

ing a field, since called *Dalmacoing*, or Yoke Haugh, on the day of the battle of Luncarty; hearing the fate of the battle, and seeing the Scotch army retreating this way, he was instantly fired with heroic indignation, and, together with his sons, seized each of them the yoke of an oxen plough, persuaded their countrymen to rally, and marching at their head, they met the Danes on the banks of the Tay near Caputh, where a second action ensued, in which this hero exhibited prodigies of valour, and his enemies were completely defeated. In consequence of this, he was dignified by his sovereign with peculiar honours, obtained the name of HAY, and the instrument he fought with for his arms. The yoke and motto *sub jugo* is still the arms of the noble family of Kinnoul, who are said to be descended from this rustic hero.

WE arrived at Perth about ten o'clock, and after having breakfasted, we went to take a view of the city,* which is one of the handsomest towns in Scotland, and built upon a much more regular plan than any of them, if we except the new town of Edinburgh. It is said to contain twenty thousand inhabitants, which account is perhaps somewhat over-rated, but the common computation from births and burials gives between sixteen and seventeen thousand. It is situated on a fine plain, on the west side of the Tay, which is here a noble river; this plain has undoubtedly been formerly the bed of the river, which, like many

* In several of the public writs, especially in the time of James VI, it is called the city of Perth.

others, has embanked itself by means of the stones, mud, and other substances brought by its waters. The extensive and rich plain called the Carse of Gowrie, stretching on both sides of the Tay, from Perth down to its junction with the sea near Dundee, and which reminds one of many of the richest parts of the south of England, has undoubtedly, at some remote period, been covered by the river. This is evident from its flat appearance, when viewed from any of the neighbouring eminences, particularly the hill of Kinnoul, or Moncrief hill. The soil being washed away by mountain torrents, which fall with great force into the rivers, begins to be deposited when the velocity of the river decreases, particularly towards the sides, where the velocity is least; by this means the stream becomes gradually contracted, leaving a fine plain of sand and vegetable soil, highly proper for cultivation. In proof of this it may be observed, that the stratum below the soil in this valley, consists of sand and rounded pebbles, and that some persons digging a well near Perth, found, at the depth of three fathoms below the bed of the Tay, chairs, tripods, and other pieces of household furniture, which must have been deposited there when that part was covered with water, as a great many pebbles, and a quantity of river sand, were found above them.

PERTH is surrounded by, or rather divides a spacious plain, into what are called the north and south inches; each of which measures about a mile and a half in circumference. They have

probably been what their name signifies, inches, or islands, when the bed of the Tay was more extensive. These inches are used as public walks by the inhabitants, and likewise as public places for the washing and drying of linen, as is common in many parts of Scotland. The Tay flows here in a direction nearly north and south, but a little below Perth it turns eastward, and is lost behind the hill of Kinnoul. The tide from the German ocean flows up the river, and reaches about two miles above Perth; the river is navigable to Perth for sloops and small craft, and in spring tides for ships of considerable burthen, which come close to the town.

Over the Tay is thrown a handsome bridge of nine arches, which cost about twenty-five thousand pounds. To this work, a considerable sum was contributed by government out of the forfeited estates, the magistrates gave as much as could be spared out of the public funds, and about seventeen thousand pounds were raised by public subscription. The late patriotic Earl of Kinnoul procured a loan on the credit of a toll to be levied, which made up what was still wanted to defray the expense. The debt, thus contracted, has been discharged, and the toll abolished. Indeed it was chiefly owing to the public spirited exertions of this nobleman, that this useful structure was begun and completed. It extends over the greatest weight of water in Britain. The communication used formerly to be by means of a wooden bridge; but this was very unsuitable to the width and

force of the river: five bridges built before this, were washed away by the floods, which frequently swell the river to an uncommon magnitude, and give to its waters almost irresistible force; but this structure has withstood some very powerful attacks from the furious element, and it is hoped will long remain a glorious monument of the power of art over nature.

The salmon fishery on the Tay is very extensive, and the rent has increased considerably of late; it may now be stated at 7.000*l.* sterling *per annum*, of which Perth draws about 1000*l.* The fishing begins on the 11th of December, and ends on the 26th of August. The spring, and part of the summer fish, go fresh, packed in ice, to the London market; and when they are plentiful in warm weather, they are pickled, and sent to the same place.* A man is stationed constantly on the bridge, both day and night, when the latter is not very dark. When he sees a fish go up the river, he makes a signal to some fishermen in a hut about 200 yards above, who immediately take to their boat, and intercept it.

This city has increased very much in magnitude and population of late years, owing to the rapid increase of its trade and manufactures, for which no place in Britain is better situated. There is a constant intercourse by water between London and Perth: every four days, at least, during the fishing season, a

* Stat. Account of Perth.

smack sails, and in general makes the passage within the week, if the weather be any way favourable; indeed the passage to London has often been performed within sixty hours. Besides the fishing smacks, which return loaded with porter, cheese, groceries, and other goods, for the consumption of the town, there are a number of vessels that convey the manufactured goods to different parts of the world.

THE staple manufacture of Perth is linen, but of late a considerable quantity of cotton goods has been manufactured, which last branch is daily increasing. There are upwards of 1,500 looms employed in the town and suburbs, which manufacture linen and cotton goods annually to the value of 100,000*l.* sterling. Besides this, there is at least 120,000*l.* more in value of linen manufactured in the neighbourhood, and purchased in the Perth market by the dealers.

THE different fabrics, as well as the general purposes to which they are applied, may be seen by the following arrangement, drawn up by a committee of gentlemen, at the request of the literary and antiquarian society. Of this committee, Mr. JOHN YOUNG, a gentleman well versed in commercial affairs, was chairman,* and, as such, signed the report, which as an au-

* To this gentleman we were indebted for much polite attention during our stay at Perth.

thentic document of the state of manufactures in Perth in the year 1794, I shall transcribe.

1. *Brown and white fine-threaded linens, denominated *Silesias*, chiefly printed for handkerchiefs; with *Britannias*, *Kentings*, &c. for export trade, may be estimated above - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	£.120,000
* Perth has long been famed for manufacturing these articles.	
2. Stout Holland sheetings, of various breadths; with $\frac{7}{8}$ and $\frac{4}{4}$ Holland shirting, and a few long lawns, above - - -	12,000
3. Four-fourths wide brown and white country linen, chiefly used for hat-linings, buckrams, &c. Brown Hollands, Hessians, pack-sheetings, and other coarse fabrics, manufactured in the neighbourhood; including soldiers' shirtings, with a few coarse sheetings, and Osnaburghs purchased - - - - - - - - - - - -	20,000
4. Five-fourths wide umbrella linens, and linens for window blinds, &c. above - - - - - - - - - - -	8,000
5. The cotton manufacture was rapidly extending, but met with a severe check the last summer, by a reduction of the value of goods manufactured, and has not yet recovered its former vigour. The shock did not affect the linen manufactures in a similar degree. Shawl cloths, calicoes, and muslins, with a very few pulicate handkerchiefs, are produced from cotton-yarn, which were estimated, within bounds, at 80,000 pounds sterling per annum; but owing to the late check, shall only be extended to - - - - - - - -	60,000
Total amount of the linen and cotton goods, which the committee are confident is under-rated - - -	£.220,000

It may be proper to observe, that the cotton manufacture is now in a very flourishing state, and carried on to a much greater

extent than when this report was drawn up, a great number of cotton mills and print works having been erected, and bleach fields established in the neighbourhood of Perth. It is thought that the linen manufacture has not increased proportionally.

BESIDES the manufactures I have mentioned, considerable quantities of leather and shoes are manufactured here. The manufacture of shoes and boots, chiefly for the London market, is carried on to the extent of at least 8,000*l.* per annum; and at the different tan works are prepared from 4 to 5000 hides, and about 500 dozen of calf-skins annually; the annual extent of this manufacture is estimated at 10,000*l.**

A MANUFACTURE of gloves has been carried on here to a considerable extent for a long time; the vicinity of Perth to the Highlands, and consequently the ease with which the skins of deer and other animals are procured, probably at first gave origin to it. From two to three thousand dozen of pairs of gloves are manufactured yearly. The glovers are incorporated along with the skinners, and this corporation is the richest in Perth. The skinners dress about thirty thousand sheep- and slaughtered lamb-skins annually, more than twenty thousand of these are of sheep killed in Perth: the rest are brought from the neighbouring country, and the Highlands. Most of these skins are sent to the London markets, and are much esteemed for their cleanness from grease, and fine grain.

* Stat. Account of Perth.

THE printing business has likewise been carried on, for some years, to a very considerable extent by the MORRISONS, who have printed some fine editions of the Scottish poets, and an Encyclopedia. They print from twenty to thirty thousand volumes annually.

IT may be expected, that a town of such opulence and spirit will be provided with banks. A respectable banking company has been established several years; and here is likewise a branch of the bank of Scotland.

THE town has been much enlarged within the last ten years, several new streets having been opened in all quarters. A new town is to be built on the ground formerly occupied by the monastery of the Black Friars. In Perth, different streets and lanes appear to have been very early allotted to the different craftsmen, who, with very few exceptions, still inhabit the same quarter of the town, and often the same streets. The skinners, for instance, live in one street, with certain adjacent closes and alleys; the weavers in a second; the hammermen in a third; the shop-keepers, or, as they are generally called in Scotland, the merchants, in a fourth, and so on; these respective streets being denominated from the nature of the business that is carried on in them.

BUT while Perth has paid so much attention to manufactures and commerce, we are not to suppose, that, like many of the

English manufacturing towns, they neglect the important business of education. Indeed, much more attention is paid to it in Scotland than in England. In some of the southern counties of England, many persons are to be met with who can neither read nor write; whereas, in most parts of Scotland, almost every person is able to read, and most of them can write.

THE grammar school of Perth has long been accounted one of the first in Scotland. It has produced many eminent statesmen, physicians, lawyers, divines, and several poets above mediocrity.

AMONG the celebrated men educated here, may be mentioned CRIGHTON of Clunie, commonly called the admirable Crighton; the late earl of Mansfield likewise received the rudiments of his education here.

THIS school now serves to prepare young men for the academy, by instructing them in the elementary parts of classical education. There is a rector, and two assistant masters.

Mr. DICK, the present rector, has a salary of 50*l.* per annum.

Mr. SWAN, } assistant masters - - 25*l.* each.
Mr. ROBINSON, }

THE school fees are five shillings a quarter, and a small donation is, besides, generally given by the pupils to each master, annually. The building is situated in South-street. The num-

ber of scholars is now seldom more than sixty, it being on the decline, on account of boys leaving it sooner than usual for

The Academy,

an excellent institution for young men intended for business, and even the learned professions. It was set on foot in the year 1761, at the earnest desire of several gentlemen in the town and neighbourhood, who thought Perth a place particularly proper for a seminary of this kind, for the following reasons:

1. It is a considerable distance from any of the universities.
2. The situation of the town is remarkably pleasant and healthy.
3. It is the centre of a very populous country, and is the place with which the Highlands of Scotland have the greatest correspondence, so that an institution of this kind would correspond with the national plan of improving and civilizing the Highlands.
4. Provisions of all kinds are to be had at a reasonable rate, and there is good accommodation for such gentlemen as might either choose to send their children to board, or reside with their families in Perth, during their education.
5. The people in general are of a sober and industrious disposition, so that the manners of youth are here in less danger of being corrupted than in any of the larger towns.

INDUCED by these considerations, the magistrates and council agreed to erect a commodious building, with proper apartments for the accommodation of the different classes. The first session was opened in October 1761, about forty students attending: the honourable JOHN MURRAY of Strowan (afterwards Duke of Athol) was unanimously chosen president for the first year, and accepted the office.

Four Tutors belong to the Academy.

Mr. GIBSON, the rector, has a salary of - - £. 50 per annum.
Mr. WALLIS, assistant tutor - - - - - £. 25.
The Abbé QUINTIN, French master - - £. 25.
Mr. JUNOR, who teaches writing and drawing - - - - - - - - - - - - - £. 25.

THE students generally remain at the academy two years, the first of which is employed in acquiring a knowledge of arithmetic, and the different exchanges with various countries, book-keeping, drawing, French, Euclid's elements, plane trigonometry, mensuration of surfaces, land surveying, mensuration of solids, gauging, navigation, fortification, &c.

THE second year they study spherical trigonometry, natural and experimental philosophy, in all their branches, algebra, fluxions, &c. The fees are, to Mr. Gibson the rector, two guineas, and to Mr. Wallis half a guinea each year. For draw-

ing and French, half a guinea a quarter each. The number of students is about eighty, and increases every year.*

THIS academy is opposite the west end of St. John's church, and is furnished with a very well selected philosophical apparatus.

AFTER what has been said of the utility of such institutions, in speaking of the academy at Inverness, it is unnecessary to add more here: it may be observed, however, that if such institutions are found useful in Scotland, which possesses several excellent universities, where youth may be educated at a trifling expense, they are still more necessary in many parts of England, that are at a great distance from the two universities; which, though in point of public buildings and funds, they are vastly superior to any seminaries of the kind in the world; their admirers cannot deny that the education of youth is very expensive, even if they should be disposed to dispute the point concerning the corruption of morals which attends the association of students in large bodies. The point which I am anxious to establish is, that it would be highly to the advantage of England to convert many of the grammar schools into institutions similar to these academies. Moderate salaries might be given to a few tutors, to secure them from want, but they should depend, for their emoluments, chiefly on the number of their pupils.

* This account of the academy was procured for me by Mr. Watts, from one of the gentlemen concerned in the management of it.

A LITERARY and antiquarian society has existed at Perth for some time, and has, like all similar institutions, contributed to diffuse a taste for these subjects among persons who would probably otherwise never have thought of them. This society was at first confined to antiquities, and was set on foot in 1784, by a minister of Perth, who had a great taste for these researches. In the year 1787, the plan was extended to the cultivation of philosophy, polite literature, and the fine arts, and forms what the French would call an academy, while to the Perth academy they would apply the name of college.

THIS society has made a considerable collection of books, original essays, ancient manuscripts, coins, medals, and subjects of natural history, with other materials suitable to the design of its institution. The ordinary meetings of the society are held on the last Tuesday of every month.

THERE is likewise a public subscription-library at Perth, well furnished with books.

THIS town is of considerable antiquity, and is supposed to have been in existence at the time that the Romans extended their arms to the banks of the Tay; though it may be presumed from the rude state of the arts, and the wandering manner of life led by the inhabitants of this country, that it could consist of nothing more than an irregular collection of huts, scarce deserving to be called a town. It would appear from the

Itinerary of Richard of Cirencester, that this town was first built and fortified by Agricola, while he carried his victorious arms north of the Forth, and was by him called Victoria. The Picts, after their conversion to christianity, consecrated the church which they had built to St. John the Baptist, whom they chose as the tutelar saint of the town; hence it came to be called St. Johnston. On some of the seals appended to the charters of the religious houses of Perth, is represented the decollation of St. John the Baptist; on the reverse is the same saint enshrined, and a number of priests kneeling before him. The legend is, *S. communitatis ville sancti Johannis Baptiste de Berth.**

The Celtic name of the town, or perhaps that given it by the Picts, seems to have been Bertha, which has been corrupted or changed to Perth. The ancient Bertha is said, by Boethius, to have been situated on the banks of the Almon, a river which falls into the Tay at a little distance, but that in the year 1200 the town, with the ground on which it stood, was swept away in one night, by a dreadful inundation in the rivers Tay and Almon, aided by a high spring tide. In this calamity many of the inhabitants lost their lives, and still more their property. An infant son of the king, with his nurse, and fourteen domestics, were among the number of those who perished. The present town was built on a plain about two miles below.

Of the ancient splendour of Perth there are but few remains; among these may be mentioned the parish church, Gowrie house,

* Stat. Account of Perth.

and the parliament house, which last is converted into dwelling houses. There remain also the houses of some of the nobility, such as that of the Earl of Errol, Earl of Athol, and Bishop of Dunkeld.

THE parish church is a large building in the form of a cross, the architecture is a very fine style of Gothic. It is now divided into three churches or places of worship.

GOWRIE house was built by the Countess of Huntley about the year 1250, and is now occupied as barracks. This house is shown to every stranger who visits Perth, on account of an attempt said to have been made by the Earl of Gowrie, on the fifth of August, 1600, to assassinate James VI. who called for help out of a window, and was rescued by his attendants rushing into the room. It is deemed incumbent on every visitor of the house to look out of this window.

AMONG all the doubtful facts which history hath attempted to develop, this is one of the most mysterious. Whether James intended to assassinate the Earl of Gowrie, or whether the Earl intended to assassinate him, or whether any assassination was intended on either side, as Mr. Gilpin observes, is equally doubtful. Circumstances very improbable attend any of these suppositions. Dr. Robertson wishes to make it appear that the Earl intended only to get James into his power, for political purposes. The following is an outline of the story, as related by this celebrated historian.

"THE immediate actors in this conspiracy, were John Ruthven, Earl of Gowrie, and his brother Alexander. They were sons of the Earl who was beheaded in the year 1584. Nature had adorned both these young men, especially the elder brother, with many accomplishments, to which education had added its most elegant improvements. More learned than is usual among persons of their rank; more religious than is common at their age of life; generous; brave; popular: their countrymen, far from thinking them capable of any atrocious crime, conceived the most sanguine hopes of their early virtues. Notwithstanding all these noble qualities, it would appear that some unknown motive engaged them in a conspiracy, which, if we credit the account given by the king, and commonly received, must be transmitted to posterity as one of the most wicked, as well as the worst concerted, of which history makes any mention.

"ON the 5th of August, in the year above mentioned, as the king, who resided during the hunting season in his palace of Falkland, was going out to his sport early in the morning, he was accosted by Alexander Ruthven, who with an air of great importance told the king, that on the preceding evening he had met an unknown man, of a suspicious aspect, walking alone in a by-path near his brother's house at Perth; and on searching him, had found under his cloak a pot filled with a vast quantity of foreign gold; that he immediately seized both him and his treasure, and, without communicating the matter to any person, had kept him confined and bound in a solitary house; and that

he thought it his duty to impart such a singular event first of all to his majesty. James immediately suspected this unknown person to be a trafficking priest, supplied with foreign coin, in order to excite new commotions in the kingdom; and resolved to impower the magistrates of Perth to call the person before them, and inquire into all the circumstances of the story. Ruthven violently opposed this resolution, and, with many arguments, urged the king to ride directly to Perth, to examine the matter with his own eyes; meanwhile the chace began; and James, notwithstanding his passion for that amusement, could not help ruminating on the strangeness of the tale, and on Ruthven's importunity. At last he called him, and promised, when the sport was over, to set out for Perth. The chace however continued long; and Ruthven, who all the while kept close by the king, still called him to make haste. At the death of the stag, he would not allow James to stay till a fresh horse was brought him; and observing the Duke of Lennox and the Earl of Marr preparing to accompany the king, he intreated him to countermand them. This James refused; and though Ruthven's impatience and anxiety, as well as the apparent perturbation in his whole behaviour, raised some suspicions in his mind, yet his own curiosity, and Ruthven's solicitations, prevailed on him to set out for Perth. When within a mile from the town, Ruthven rode forward to inform his brother of the king's arrival, though he had already dispatched two messengers for that purpose. At a little distance from the town, the Earl, attended by several of the citizens, met the king, who had only twenty per-

sons in his train. No preparations were made for the king's entertainment; the Earl appeared pensive and embarrassed, and was at no pains to atone by his courtesy for the bad fare with which he treated his guest.

"When the king's repast was over, and his attendants were led to dine in another room, Ruthven whispered him, that now was the time to go to the chamber where the unknown person was kept. James commanded him to bring Sir Thomas Erskine along with them; but instead of that, Ruthven ordered him not to follow; and conducting the king up a stair-case, and then through several apartments, the doors of which he locked behind him, led him at last to a small study, in which there stood a man clad in armour, with a sword and dagger by his side. The king, who expected to have found one disarmed and bound, started at the sight, and inquired if this was the person; but Ruthven snatching the dagger from the girdle of the man in armour, and holding it to the king's breast, 'Remember,' said he, 'how unjustly my father suffered by your command; you are now my prisoner; submit to my proposal without resistance, or outcry, or this dagger shall avenge his blood.' James expostulated with Ruthven, intreated and flattered him. The man whom he found in the study, stood all the while trembling and dismayed, without courage either to aid the king, or to second his aggressor. Ruthven protested, that if the king raised no outcry, his life should be safe; and, moved by some unknown reason, retired in order to call his brother, leaving

to the man in armour the care of the king, whom he bound by oath not to make any noise in his absence.

"While the king was in this dangerous situation, his attendants growing impatient to know whither he had retired, one of Gowrie's attendants entered hastily, and told them the king had just rode away towards Falkland. All of them rushed out into the street, and the Earl, in the utmost hurry, called for their horses to be got ready. By this time, his brother had returned to the king, and swearing that there was now no remedy, but that he must die, offered to bind his hands. Unarmed as James was, he scorned to submit to that indignity; and closing with the assassin, a fierce struggle ensued. The man in armour stood, as formerly, amazed and motionless; and the king dragging Ruthven towards a window, which, during his absence, he had persuaded the person with whom he was left, to open, cried with a wild and affrighted voice, 'Treason! treason! help! I am murdered!'

"His attendants heard and knew the voice; and saw at the window a hand which grasped the king's neck with violence. They flew with haste to his assistance: Lennox and Marr, with the greater number, ran up the principal stair-case, where they found all the doors shut, which they battered with the utmost fury, endeavouring to burst them open. But Sir John Ramsay, entering by a back stair-case which led to the apartment where the king was, found the door open; and rushing upon Ruthven,

who was still struggling with the king, struck him twice with his dagger, and thrust him towards the stair-case, where Sir Thomas Erskine, and Sir Hugh Herries, met and killed him; he crying with his last breath, 'Alas! I am not to blame for this action.' During this scuffle, the man who had been concealed in the study escaped unobserved. Together with Ramsay, Erskine, and Herries, one Wilson, a footman, entered the room where the king was, and before they had time to shut the door, Gowrie rushed in with a drawn sword in each hand, followed by seven of his attendants well armed, and with a loud voice threatened them all with instant death. They immediately thrust the king into the little study, and shutting the door upon him, encountered the Earl. Notwithstanding the inequality of numbers, Sir John Ramsay pierced Gowrie through the heart, who fell down dead without uttering a word; and his followers, having received several wounds, immediately fled. Three of the king's defenders were likewise hurt in the conflict. A dreadful noise still continued at the opposite door, where many persons laboured in vain to force a passage: and the king being assured that they were Lennox, Marr, and his other friends, it was opened on the inside. They ran to the king, whom unexpectedly they found safe, with transports of congratulation; and he, falling on his knees, with all his attendants around him, offered solemn thanks to God for so wonderful a deliverance.

"The danger, however, was not yet over. The inhabitants of the town, whose provost Gowrie was, and by whom he was ex-

tremely beloved, hearing the fate of the two brothers, ran to their arms, and surrounded the house, threatening revenge, with many insolent and opprobrious speeches against the king. James endeavoured to pacify the enraged multitude, by speaking to them from the window; he admitted their magistrates into the house; related to them the whole circumstances of the fact; and their fury subsiding, by degrees they dispersed. On searching the pockets of the Earl for papers, which might discover the designs of his accomplices, nothing was found but a small parchment bag full of magical characters, and words of enchantment; and in the account of the conspiracy published by the king, it is asserted, that while they were about him, the wound of which he died bled not, but as soon as they were taken away, the blood gushed out in great abundance.

"AFTER all the dangerous adventures of this busy day, the king returned in the evening to Falkland, having committed the dead bodies of the two brothers to the custody of the magistrates of Perth.*"

NOTWITHSTANDING the minute detail, as Dr. Robertson observes, which the king gave of all the circumstances of this conspiracy against his life; the motives which induced the two brothers to attempt an action so detestable, the end they had in view, and the accomplices on whose aid they depended, were altogether unknown. Three of the Earl's attendants being con-

* Robertson's History of Scotland, Book VIII.

victed of assisting him in his assault on the king's servants, were executed at Perth; but they could give no light into the motives which had prompted their master to such an action. Diligent search was made for the person concealed in the study, and from him great discoveries were expected. But Henderson, the Earl's steward, who, upon a promise of pardon, confessed himself to be the man, declared he was as much a stranger to the designs of his master as the rest; and though placed in the study by Gowrie's command, he did not even know for what end that station had been assigned him.

THE contest which followed between James and his clergy, after this mysterious event, is truly ridiculous. He could not prevail upon them to allow that an attempt had been made upon his life, and therefore to thank God publicly for his escape. Some of them were on this account banished to England.

THERE were formerly a great many religious houses and establishments in Perth, which were mostly destroyed at the time of the Reformation. Among these may be enumerated the following:

1. THE Dominican, or Black Friars monastery, founded by Alexander II., in 1231.
2. THE monastery of White Friars, or Carmelites, which was founded in the reign of Alexander III.

3. The Charter-house, or monastery of Carthusians, founded by James I., in 1429.
4. The Franciscan, or Gray Friars monastery, founded by Lord Oliphant, in 1460.

Besides the parish church of St. John Baptist, which still remains, and the church which made part of the buildings of these four monasteries, there were nine chapels, some of which had hospitals for the poor and sick, and likewise small nunneries annexed to them. All these churches and chapels were filled with altars consecrated to the various saints, and each of the altars had one officiating chaplain, or more, when more than one saint was honoured at the same altar.*

It was at Perth that the reformed religion was first publicly avowed; to this place John Knox repaired, on his return to his native country from Geneva, where he had passed some years in banishment, and where he had imbibed, from his commerce with Calvin, the highest fanaticism of his sect, which was augmented by the natural ferocity of his temper.

Having been invited back to Scotland, he, on Thursday the 11th of May, 1559, preached a sermon in the parish church of Perth, against idolatry. After the sermon, a priest was so imprudent as to open his repository of images and relics, and pre-

* Stat. Account of Perth.

pare to say mass. The audience, having caught the enthusiasm of Knox from his sermon, were in a disposition for any ferocious enterprise. They attacked the priest with fury, broke the images in pieces, tore the pictures, overthrew the altars, scattered about the sacred vases, and left no implement of idolatrous worship, as they termed it, entire or undefaced. They thence proceeded with additional numbers, and augmented rage, to the monasteries of the Gray and Black Friars, which they entirely pillaged and demolished. The Carthusians underwent the same fate.*

THE present inhabitants of Perth, who are of the established church, have three churches; there is likewise a Gaelic chapel, and a relief church. Among the dissenters are a small congregation of old Scotch Episcopalians: an English episcopal chapel: a small society of Cameronians; another of Anabaptists; a congregation of Burgher, and another of Antiburgher seceders, and a society of Glassites, or Sandemanians.

FROM the town we were conducted by Mr. Young along a fine zig-zag walk, to the top of the hill of Kinnoul, which has a gentle ascent on the south and east side, but the west is perpendicular, like many similar hills in Scotland, some of which will afterwards be particularly noticed. On the side of this hill Mr. Young is building a very good house, which is delightfully situated, and commands a fine prospect.

* See Hume's History, and Newte's Tour.

The view from the top of Kinnoul hill is delightful, and very extensive: before us lay stretched out the Carse of Gowrie, a very fertile plain, rich in corn, and adorned with many noblemen's and gentlemen's seats. This beautiful plain is twenty miles in length, and, on an average, about three in breadth. Through this vale, the majestic Tay rolls along its waters, enlivened by the sails bearing the produce of different parts to Perth, and carrying its fish and manufactures in return. This river, though it does not assume the name of Tay till it issues from Loch Tay, has its origin at a much greater distance. It rises in Breadalbane, on the frontiers of Lorn, in Argyleshire. Before it has advanced many miles from its source, its stream becomes considerably augmented by several brooks that fall into it from the neighbouring hills. It soon after diffuses its waters into a small lake, called Loch Dochart; and indeed the river itself is here called the Dochart.* Issuing from this lake, it soon expands into another; out of this it proceeds to Killin, where, meeting with another river from the north-east, their waters form Loch Tay. Issuing from this beautiful and spacious lake at Kenmore, the Tay, as has been before observed, soon unites with the Lyon: at Logierait it is joined by the waters of the Tummel. Here it turns southward, and, passing Dunkeld, bends its course towards Perth; being, as it advances, still augmented by the accession of various tributary streams. A little below Perth it turns to the south-east, and receiving, as it proceeds, the waters of the Earn, it soon after expands to the

* Heron's Journey through Part of Scotland.

breadth of three miles. It contracts, however, as it approaches Dundee, where it pours its waters into the German ocean.

When Agricola and his army first saw this noble river, and the adjacent plain on which Perth is situated, they cried out with one consent, *Ecce Tiber! Ecce Campus martius!*

Opposite to the hill of Kinnoul, on the other side of the Tay, is another hill about the same height, or higher, called Moncrief hill; the prospect from which, Mr. Pennant says, is the glory of Scotland. It is nearly the same as from the hill of Kinnoul, but more extensive.

Having employed every instant of the morning in viewing the town, and surrounding country, and collecting what information we could from Mr. Young, who politely accompanied us in our excursions, we dined with James Patton, Esquire, where we met a very pleasant and intelligent party. As we did not wish to lose so fine an evening, after tea we went to visit the celebrated palace of Scone, which is about two miles distant from Perth. This place is interesting, as being anciently the residence of the Scottish kings, the place of their coronation, and the scene of many splendid actions. Here formerly stood an abbey, which was founded by Alexander I. in the year 1114, and dedicated by him to the Holy Trinity, and St. Michael the Archangel. It is said to have been originally a seat of the Culdees, and was afterwards filled with canons of St. Augustine. At the Reformation, a mob from Dundee and Perth,

rendered furious by the preaching of Knox, and impelled by private resentment, as well as the hope of plunder, destroyed both this ancient abbey and palace, which were very extensive. The abbey wall, as appears from the foundations which have been dug up, inclosed at least twelve acres of ground.

Long before the foundation of this abbey, Scone appears to have been a place of note. Some writers call it the ancient capital of the Picts; but it was certainly the chief seat of the kings of Scotland, as early as the time of Kenneth.

In the church of this abbey was preserved the famous stone, which was said to have first served Jacob as his pillow, and was afterwards transported into Spain, where it was used as a seat of justice by Gethalus, a cotemporary with Moses. It afterwards found its way to Dunstaffnage, as has been before mentioned, and continued there as the coronation chair, till the reign of Kenneth II. who removed it to Scone, and on it every Scottish king was crowned, till the year 1296, when Edward I. took it to England, and it continues one of the appendages of royalty in Westminster Abbey. According to an ancient prophecy, wherever this stone was, there would also be the seat of empire; this prophecy is expressed in the following distich, and is said to have contributed to reconcile many bigots of the Scotch nation to the union:

Ni fallat fatum, Scoti, quocunque locatum
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.

It is not certain whether the present house, which is a seat of Lord Stormont's, stands on any part of the foundation of the former palace, though there are some reasons for believing that it does. This house is pleasantly situated on an extensive lawn sloping gently to the Tay, and surrounded by fine plantations. It is in that style of building which prevailed about two centuries ago, and which is more remarkable for its strength than its elegance. It contains some large apartments, particularly a gallery on the east side, the length of which is a hundred and sixty feet, and the breadth only eighteen, so that it instantly appears very disproportioned. The ceiling is arched, and covered with painting. On one side is represented the hunting of a stag, in all its different stages; and on the other, the diversion of hawking, and hunting of the wild boar. James VI. appears in every scene, attended by the nobles of his court, many of the portraits of which were drawn from life. The spaces between the different scenes are filled up with family arms, fruit, flowers, and other ornaments. These paintings appear to have had considerable merit, but are now much defaced. This gallery, and some other apartments, particularly the audience chamber remain in their original state; but others have been modernized. Among these last, is a very handsome dining-room, and a drawing-room. In the former is a superb chimney-piece, on the upper part of which are the arms of Britain, and below, those of the family of Stormont. In this room are portraits of the present king and queen, as large as life, and in some of the other rooms there are several good portraits.

In an apartment on the west side of the house, which is called the queen's room, is a bed of flowered crimson velvet, which is said to have been the work of the accomplished and unfortunate Mary, during her confinement in the castle of Lochleven. In a room off the north end of the gallery, is the canopy of state used by the Earl of Mansfied, when ambassador to the court of Versailles, which is now converted into a bed.

About seventy yards north of the house, is a small eminence, commonly called Boot-hill; and by several writers, *omnis terra*, or every man's land. The common tradition concerning this hill, is, that at the coronation of a king, every man who assisted, brought so much earth in his boots, that each person could see the king crowned, standing on his own land; and that, after the ceremony, they cast the earth out of their boots upon this hill, on which account it obtained the name of omnis terra. It seems, however, more probable, that Boot-hill is a corruption of Moot-hill, or the hill of meeting. The highlanders still call it *Tom-a mhoid*, which signifies the hill where justice is administered.*

On this hill, David, the first viscount of Stormont, built an elegant parish-church, about the year 1624, which, a few years since, wanting considerable repairs, and being insufficient to accommodate the parishioners, was taken down, excepting the aisle, and a new church built in the village of Scone.

* Stat. Account of Scone.

On the north wall of this aisle which remains, is a very fine marble monument, erected to the memory of the above-mentioned David, Viscount Stormont. It seems to have been intended for an altar-piece, and represents the inside of a chapel or oratory. In the middle is a statue of his lordship in armour, as large as life, kneeling on a cushion before an altar, on which is laid a book: he has the palms of his hands joined in the attitude of prayer. This statue, particularly the face and hands, is very finely executed, every vein is expressed, and the figure seems to breathe. On each side is a man in armour, somewhat smaller than the life, but of admirable workmanship, the heads of which absolutely appear as if alive. One is said to represent the Marquis of Tullibardine, and the other the Earl Mareschall. Above these are several emblematical figures; towards the top, the arms of the family, and over all an angel. The *tout ensemble*, as well as each particular part, is very fine. Above the head of the Viscount is the following inscription:

The right honourable S^r^. David Mvrray of Gospertie kny. Sonne to S^r^. Anrdov Mvrray of Balvaird, his grands^n^ brother to y^e^ Earle of Tvllibardine, his mother davghter to y^e^ Earle of Montrois, his gvidame of y^e^ father, davghter to y^e^ Lord Lindsay, his gvidame of the mother, davghter to y^e^ Earle Merschell, qvho for his good service done to King James VI. qvhom he faithfully served from his yovthe in many honor^ble^ imployments (from a cvp-bearer, M^r^ of his horses, comptroller of his rents, capitane of his Ma^tes^ garrd, one of his h^ns^ honorable privie counsel) was created Lord of Scone. He married Dame Elizabeth Betone, ane ancient Barrons davghter of Creicke. Died w^t^ovt

ishve, and left his estat to nevoy of Balvaird, and to dame Annas Mvrray his neis, qvhome he married to ane brother of y^e^ Earle of Tvllibardine from q^m^ he first descended. He helped his other friends who enioyes y^e^ frvits of his labors; his bvildings prvifs he was pollitiq. Good men knew he loved virtve, and malifactors y^t^ he maintined ivstice. He fovnded y^e^ hospitall, and bvilded y^e^ chorche. His sovle enioyes happines, & vnder y^e^ tombe bvilded by himself lyeth his bodie, expecting y^e^ ioyfvl resvrrection.

On the east wall is a handsome monument of blue and white marble, erected to the memory of Lady Stormont, first wife of the Earl of Mansfield; on a pedestal in a marble niche, stands an urn of white marble, in which her heart is inclosed. On the pedestal is the following elegant inscription:

In hac Urna
Amati quod superest cordis
Deponi voluit conjux A. D. 1766.
Mutuique amoris perpetuo memor
nunc demum addit suum. A. D. 1796.

And on a tablet under the urn,

Sacrum
Henricæ Fredericæ Stormont
Filiæ Comitis de Bunau
Uxori Davidis vice com. de Stormont
Mag. Brit. ad aulam Cæsaream
legati.
Florens ætate, ingenio forma
omni laude insignis
omni virtute predita
sibi felicem
Amicis parentibus et miserrimo conjugi
Acerbissimam mortem obivit
Die Marti XVI. A. D. MDCCLXVI.

Perth.

AUGUST 7th. Early in the morning I went to the foot of the perpendicular rock of Kinnoul, which was mentioned to me as a great mineralogical curiosity, though I could get no particular account of the nature of it, except that it contained a number of beautiful pebbles. I therefore wished particularly to examine it: for this purpose, having crossed the Tay by the bridge of Perth, instead of turning on the left, towards Scone, I took the road to the right, and walked along the banks of the Tay, which here forms a fine island. It was from an eminence opposite this island, that Mr. Watts drew the view of Perth here presented: the base of Kinnoul hill is seen on the right, with Mr. Young's house among the wood at the top. It was along the base of this hill, close to the edge of the water, where something like a road may be discerned in the view, that I went, and after walking about two miles, came to the bottom of the perpendicular cliff. In my way along the side of the hill, I observed several rude basaltic pillars, and some strata, or currents of crumbling lava, in which a few thin veins of chalcedony were discernible. The foot of the perpendicular rock stands upon a steep hill, or inclined plane, which is covered with the debris, or loose fragments of the rock, that are constantly falling off, particularly after frosts and heavy rains. The height of the summit of this rock, above the level of the Tay, is 632 feet.

THE greatest part of this rock consists of lava, in which different layers, or currents, are very evident. Some of it is very compact, but it is generally full of small cells, which have been

filled with air bubbles, and resemble exactly the cells in the slag of an iron foundry. This lava is generally of a grey colour, having a lilac tinge; some of it was put into a small crucible, and being placed in the fire of a blacksmith's forge, easily melted into a glass of a dark purple colour, inclining to black, which was so tenacious that it could be drawn into fine threads, and might undoubtedly be blown into bottles. Immense quantities of this lava are lying at the foot of the rock, which show clearly the volcanic or igneous origin of the hill.

It is difficult to enumerate the different substances which are found in this lava; they are more numerous and various, as well as curious and beautiful, than I ever met with in any one place; indeed, I suppose that so rich a field for the student of mineralogy could scarcely any where else be found. In about two hours I collected a much greater number of curious and beautiful specimens than I was able to carry, though I filled my pockets, and a large pocket-handkerchief. I was under the necessity, therefore, of requesting the assistance of a person who was working at a little distance. I shall only attempt to enumerate some of the most curious specimens which I found.

Among the debris at the bottom of the hill, are frequently found very fine agates, of the ribbon, fortification, and other figures. This rock has long been famous for these, though the mineralogy of it has otherwise been little attended to. Several years ago a lapidary from Edinburgh visited it, and collected all

the fine agates he could find; since that time, a person in Perth makes a business of picking them up after every frost or heavy fall of rain; on this account, though I found several, none were remarkably fine. Sometimes they are found sticking in a bed of lava, and with a small pocket telescope I could perceive numbers of them, in the face of the rock, far above my reach, adhering in this manner.

I FOUND some of these pebbles hollow, the inside being lined with rock crystals, and I have one or two specimens in which calcareous crystals are inclosed in the middle of the agate; one incloses a piece of lava, which is a very curious circumstance. Besides these, nodules and veins of fine chalcedony are to be found, in some specimens resembling onyx, and in others approaching in appearance to carnelion.

IN some of the currents of lava I found veins of sulphat of barytes: there are likewise masses of amorphous sulphat of barytes, or cawk. The same mineral is also found in lenticular crystals, or what is called coxcomb spar. I found likewise some specimens of tuberous zeolite, and I have one in which a piece of lava is nearly invested with this mineral. I met with a considerable quantity of chert, or petrosilex, and found a large piece of rock crystal, incrusted with chalcedony, which is rough and opaque on the outside. This specimen contains within it a great number of crystals, if they may be so called, but they have a great resemblance to basaltic pillars, being pentagonal, and each face touching the other. They seem to have been formed by

the contraction of the parts, like pieces of starch, and are exactly similar to the pieces of unannealed glass called proofs, when broken by a piece of flint dropped into them. Rhomboidal calcareous spar is likewise met with, and greenish coloured steatite.

THAT the origin of this curious rock is igneous, cannot be doubted, from the greatest part of it being lava; but how these beautiful agates, or other minerals, have been produced, is perhaps difficult to say. Most of them, however, appear to have been formed after the flowing of the lava, and I think it most probable that the nodules of agate have been produced by crystallization in the air-holes of the lava, while it was in a fused state, in which state it would continue for a long time, at such a depth from the surface. One specimen which I have of a nodule of agate inclosing a piece of cellular lava in its centre, exactly of the same kind with that which surrounds it, strongly supports this idea.*

* Since this was written, I have seen the description of this rock by Faujas de St. Fond, who examined it with great attention when at Perth. As no person whatever has paid so much attention to volcanic mineralogy, I trust that my mineralogical reader will require no apology from me for transcribing his description of the various minerals which he met with. I wish to make my book as complete a guide as possible to tourists of every description.

Volcanic Mineralogy of Kinnoul.

1. Black basaltes, of a fine grain and homogeneous texture, forming an extensive current, adhering to a stream of black porphyric lava, with a basis of trap, and so disposed as to leave no doubt that the basaltic lava in this state derives its origin from

This lava having flowed externally, the formation of basaltic pillars has been prevented; at least those pillars that are met with are very rude; though there is a considerable quantity of

porphyric lava. The latter has preserved its crystals of feld spar, which are small but well defined, whilst the basaltic lava has lost its crystals, which are amalgamated and blended with the very basis of the porphyry, either by a sudden and violent, or by a long continued heat. On examining the basaltic lava with a microscope, small crystals are still seen in some parts of it, which are not entirely amalgamated with the lava; their course may be pretty well traced, even from their exterior appearance. Small splinters of porphyric lava, on being urged with a blow-pipe, afford an enamel of a beautiful black colour, and the basaltic lava yields a vitreous matter, in every respect similar.

2. The same basaltic lava, divided into prisms, very irregular, though well defined. These prisms present nothing in the fracture but an homogeneous lava, without the least crystal of feld spar.

3. Basaltic lava of a delicate green colour, very hard, sometimes sonorous on being struck, disposed in a large current. This greenish lava transversely intersects a current of black compact lava. Its greenish colour is owing to a particular modification of iron.

4. A quadrangular prism, well defined, in excellent preservation, and of an agreeable delicate green colour. I found it among the wreck of a considerable mass of lava of the same colour, which had fallen from the top of the precipice.

5. The same greenish basaltic lava, in a tabular form—none of the green coloured lavas were magnetic.

6. Compact porphyric lava, of a black ground, studded with a number of crystals of white feld spar, which have not undergone any alteration. This lava is strongly magnetic.

7. A quadrangular prism of blackish porphyric lava, magnetic, with a knob of flesh-coloured agate on one of its faces.

8. Porphyric lava, mouldering into gravel, and forming extensive beds. I have no doubt that if this gravelly lava, which is not very hard, were reduced to powder by the aid of stamping mills, like those used in Holland, for pounding the lavas, or taras, in the environs of Andernach, it would afford a puzzolana, an excellent cement, of great, and indeed indispensable use for building in water.

9. Compact porphyric lava, with a ground of deep iron grey, inclining to violet, intermixed with particles of green steatites, some nobs of variegated agate, and a few globules of white calcareous spar, disposed in a large current.

whinstone on the other side of the rock, near Mr. Young's house, where the lava has cooled more slowly.

To the botanist, the hill of Kinnoul is not destitute of attractions. I was struck with the appearance of a great quantity

10. Compact porphyric lava, magnetic, with knobs of white, and sometimes flesh-coloured calcareous spar, and globules of the finest green-coloured steatites.

11. Reddish-coloured compact porphyric lava, forming a layer between two currents of basaltic lava, of a delicate green colour, adhering to them.

12. Black porphyric lava, magnetic, intersected with belts of red porphyric lava, resembling the red porphyry of the ancients. This specimen, in which both the lavas are united, is very remarkable.

13. A geode of agate, internally studded with shining crystals of violet-coloured quartz, in the form of hexagonal pyramids, incrusted with compact porphyric lava, of a dark brown colour, a little inclining to violet, with some knobs of white calcareous spar, and several globules of agate and green steatites.

14. A geode of bright red agate, having in its interior a brilliant crystallization of white quartz, of greatest purity. This geode is found in black porphyric lava, which is magnetic.

15. Eye-spotted agate of a delicate rose-colour, incrusted with dark brown porphyric lava, intermixed with globules of green steatites. This specimen is very agreeable to the eye.

16. Red-striped agate, inclosed in black porphyric lava, strongly magnetic.

17. Semi-transparent agate of the most vivid red, in a porphyric lava inclining to violet, with knobs of white calcareous spar, and globules of a delicate green-coloured steatites.

18. A geode with a crust of chalcedoneous blueish occulated agate, internally studded with crystals of sparkling quartz. In the interior of the crystals, are seen pieces of black lava, taken up during the process of crystallization; which shews beyond a doubt, that the formation of the geodes was posterior to that of the lava.

19. A lump of white calcareous spar, sparkling, disposed in rhomboidal laminæ, amidst a slight envelope of steatites of a fine green colour. The whole is incrusted in a black compact lava, magnetic, and more nearly resembling basaltes than porphyry.

20. A lump of green steatites, enveloped with a slight covering of white calcareous spar, in a porphyric lava, of a brown colour, inclining to violet. This fragment is the reverse of the preceding.

St. Fond's Travels through England and Scotland.

of the *Cynoglossum officinale*, or great hound's tongue, among the debris of lava, at the bottom of the precipice, raising its mulberry-coloured blossoms above the pieces of broken rock. This led me to examine the vegetable productions more narrowly, and on the side and top of the hill I found the following plants, none of which are very common: *Asplenium Ceterach*, or common spleen wort; *Allium vineale*, or crow garlic; *Veronica saxatilis*, or rock speedwell; and *Potentilla argentea*, or silver cinque-foil.

After dining at Perth, we set out for Kinross, distant fifteen miles on the Edinburgh road. The first part of our road was extremely pleasant; on our left we had the Tay, adorned with islands, and a fine view of the rock of Kinnoul: before us were the hills of Stormont and Moncrief. At the distance of about three miles from Perth, we crossed the Earne, a river which runs from a lake of the same name, and here falls into the Tay. At this place we left the road, and turned to the right, up the valley called Strath-Earne, to visit the mineral springs at Pitkeathly, which are about a mile and a half distant from the bridge of Earne. We were informed, at Perth, that these springs were chalybeate; and, if I remember right, they are mentioned as such in some late tours, but on examination they did not afford any appearance of iron.

There are five distinct springs, all of the same quality, but of different degrees of strength. With a view of acquiring some

knowledge of the contents of these waters, I made the following experiments:

1. Eight drops of tincture of galls being dropped into a wine-glass full of the water, produced no change in the colour, or transparency.
2. Acid of sugar produced only a very slight cloud.
3. Nitrat of silver produced a very dense cloud, which instantly fell to the bottom.
4. Muriat of barytes caused a slight turbidness.

It would appear, from these experiments, that the water contains no iron, but little sulphuric acid, and only a small quantity of lime; but its taste, and the precipitation caused by nitrat of silver, indicate a considerable quantity of *muriat of soda*, or common salt. The water has no sparkling appearance when poured out of one glass into another, and no perceptible odour.

These were the only experiments which I could make on the spot, having only a few tests with me; but it was my intention to have procured a quantity of the water, and made a complete analysis of it at Glasgow. On looking, however, into the statistical account of the parish of Dumbarny, in which these wells are situated, I found this had been done, in a manner apparently very accurate, by Mr. Stoddart, a chemist at

Perth. I was not displeased at being saved so much trouble, and shall take the liberty to copy his analysis.

A TABLE, shewing the contents, in a wine gallon, of each of the mineral waters belonging to the estates of Pitkeathly and Dumbarny:

NAMES of the WATERS.	East Well.	West Well.	Spout Well.	Dumbarny Well.	S. Park Well.	
Atmospheric air - - - -	4	4	4	4	4	cubic inches.
Carbonic acid gas - - -	8	8	6	5	5	Do.
Carbonat of lime - - -	5	5½	5	5½	5	grains.
Sulphat of lime - - - -	5½	5	3½	3	3	Do.
Muriat of soda - - - -	100	92	82	57	44	Do.
Muriat of lime - - - -	180	168	146	102	84	Do.
Specific gravity of a gallon of each, more than distilled water	216	198	172	124	198	grains.

THE chief mineralizers are therefore muriat of soda, and muriat of lime.

THE time when these mineral waters were discovered is not known. In the year 1772, some experiments were made on one of the springs by Dr. DONALD MONRO, which, with a letter from the late Dr. WOOD, of Perth, were published in the sixty-second volume of the Philosophical Transactions.

This water, in its saline contents, bears a considerable resemblance to the purgative waters of Harrowgate, and is, like those waters, purgative when drank in rather a larger dose. It has long been celebrated, and I believe deservedly, in scrofulous and herpetic complaints; in the former it should be used internally as an alterative, rather than as a purgative, and should therefore be drank in small doses several times a day. In different herpetic complaints, or those which are commonly, though improperly, termed scorbutic, it should be taken in general as a purgative, either every morning, or every other morning, and used as a warm bath three or four times a week. This should be done in the evening, and the patient ought, during the night, to encourage a gentle perspiration; that circumstance being of much consequence in diseases of the skin. There is one house which can accommodate about half a dozen persons, near the wells; and there are several others in the neighbourhood, where comfortable lodgings may be had. The situation is very pleasant, and the air pure.

Having examined these mineral waters, we returned by the same road to the bridge of Earne, and then pursued our route to Kinross. At the distance of about seven miles from Perth, we ascended a hill, from which we had a delightful view of Strath Tay as far as Dundee; and of the fertile country of Strath Earne, through which that river meanders beautifully, till it reaches the Tay: this vale is adorned with the seats of several noblemen and gentlemen.

We now left this rich and beautiful country for one much more barren, which contained nothing interesting. About a mile and a half before we reached Kinross, we passed through a considerable village called Milnathort.

Kinross,* the capital of the county of the same name, is a small town, situated very pleasantly on a pretty extensive plain, at the west end of Lochleven. The great road from Edinburgh to Perth, by Queensferry, passes through it. This place used formerly to be famed for its cutlery manufacture; about forty years ago, this branch employed about thirty hands; but it has declined since that time, and is now little known. It has been succeeded by the linen and cotton manufactures. The principal manufacture is what is called Silesia linens; but some branches of the muslin trade have been introduced by manufacturers in Glasgow. There are two very good inns, one in the town, and the other about half a mile northward, on the Perth road.

At a short distance from the town is Kinross-house, which was built by the celebrated architect, Sir William Bruce, in the year 1685, for his own residence. It is a very handsome building, containing some spacious rooms, and commands a delightful view of the lake, on the western bank of which it stands. It is now the property of Mr. Graham.

* Kinross, in the Celtic, signifies the head of the peninsula; and it is said that the whole tract of country between the Tay and the Forth had anciently the name of Ross, or Peninsula.—Stat. Account of Kinross.

LOCHLEVEN, which was the principal object of this journey, is a very fine piece of water; and though inferior in magnitude and grandeur to Loch Lomond, and many other lakes we had seen in our tour, it is by no means destitute of beauties of the more soft and gentle kind. It is about four miles in length from the west to the east end, and nearly of the same breadth; its circumference is about twelve miles.

THIS lake is bounded by the hills called the Lomonds, on the east, Benarty on the south, and by the plain of Kinross on the north and west. Four islands are dispersed in this expanse of water, on one of which are the ruins of a castle formerly belonging to the Douglases of Lochleven, and which is generally called the castle of Lochleven. This island is about two acres in extent, and the castle stands near the middle of it, encompassed by a rampart of stone. This castle, with the adjacent country, forms a beautifully picturesque scene. When viewed from near the burial ground, beyond the house of Kinross, the island, with its ruined towers and trees, seems floating in the lake; between it and the shore are two small islands, called Paddock bower and Reed bower; the back ground is formed of rugged hills, sloping into the lake.

THOSE who are fortunate enough to view this scene, under the same circumstances that we did, will confess that it is one of the most tranquil, simple, and beautiful views that can be imagined. The day had been uncommonly warm, which made us

Pl. Grand

enjoy the sweet composure of the cool evening. Instead of the strong light of noon, a soft mellow hue overspread the whole scene, and gave it a charm so irresistible, that we both involuntarily exclaimed we had never been so much pleased with a view. Mr. Gilpin saw it under similar circumstances, and seemed equally enraptured with it.

A GREAT number of cranes, or herons, were seen on the island, and the ruins of the castle appeared almost covered with them, when we viewed it through a telescope.

THIS castle is said to have been the ancient seat of Congal, son of Dongart, king of the Picts, who built it. It was granted by Robert III. to Douglas, laird of Lochleven. It was formerly a very strong place, and could accommodate a numerous garrison. The contrast between its ancient splendour, and its present state, is beautifully painted by a bard, who drew his first breath, and spent the greatest part of his short life, on the banks of Lochleven.*

* Michael Bruce, the person alluded to, was born at Kinneswood, near Lochleven, March 27, 1746. He was descended from a family in no respect illustrious, though bearing a name renowned in Scottish history. His father was a weaver, reputable for his piety, industry, and integrity; and his mother was distinguished chiefly by her exemplary prudence and frugality, and the innocence and simplicity of her manners.

Let not ambition mock their useful toil,
Their homely joys and destiny obscure;
Nor grandeur hear, with a disdainful smile,
These short and simple annals of the poor.

They had eight children, of whom Michael was the fifth. The first years of his life were by no means passed without distinction; he very early gave proofs of a

No more its arches echo to the noise
Of joy and festive mirth. No more the glance
Of blazing taper through its windows beams,
And quivers on the undulating wave:
But naked stand the melancholy walls,
Lash'd by the wint'ry tempests, cold and bleak,
That whistle mournful through the empty halls,
And piecemeal crumble down the tow'rs to dust.

superior genius, which his parents endeavoured to encourage and improve by education, as much as was in their power. He was designed for the church, and went through a regular course of studies in the University of Edinburgh; but not succeeding, probably for want of patronage, he for some years taught a small school at Gairney Bridge, the foot of Lochleven; the delightful scenery inspired his muse, and he produced several beautiful poems. His constitution was always delicate, and he was soon attacked by consumptive symptoms, which afflicted him for a long time, and carried him off in the twenty-first year of his age. His principal poems are Lochleven, Daphnis, and the Mousiad: besides these he left a number of elegies, odes, and pastorals, which were published after his death, by subscription, for the benefit of his mother. In the thirty-sixth number of The Mirror, is an essay on the subject of Bruce's poems, written, I believe, by Lord Craig. "Nothing," he observes, "has more the power of awakening benevolence, than the consideration of genius thus depressed by situation, suffered to pine in obscurity, and sometimes, as in the case of this unfortunate young man, to perish, it may be, for want of those comforts and conveniences which might have fostered a delicacy of frame or of mind, ill calculated to bear the hardships which poverty lays on both. For my part (continues he) I never pass the place (a little hamlet skirted with a circle of old ash trees, about three miles on this side Kinross) where Michael Bruce resided; I never look on his dwelling—a small thatched house, distinguished from the cottages of the other inhabitants, only by a sashed window at the end instead of a lattice, fringed with a honeysuckle plant which the poor youth had trained around it;—I never find myself in that spot, but I stop my horse involuntarily; and looking on the window, which the honeysuckle has now almost covered, in the dream of the moment I picture out a figure for the gentle tenant of the mansion; I wish, and my heart swells while I do so, that he were alive, and that I were a great man to have the luxury of visiting him there, and bidding him be happy."

Perhaps in some lone, dreary, desert tower,
That time has spared, forth from the window looks,
Half hid in grass, the solitary fox;
While from above, the owl, musician dire!
Screams hideous, harsh, and grating to the ear.
Equal in age, and sharers of its fate,
A row of moss-grown trees around it stand;
Scarce here and there upon their blasted tops
A shrivelled leaf distinguishes the year.

In the year 1335, this castle sustained a memorable siege, by Sir John Stirling, one of the partisans, and a principal officer of Edward Baliol, who, under the protection of Edward III. of England, contested the crown of Scotland with David II. After the assailants had several times attempted to take it by storm, and being as often repulsed, they adopted the plan of damming up the river that flows out of the lake, expecting thus to raise the water in it so high, as to drive the besieged from the fortress. The water continued to rise daily, and they thought themselves certain of succeeding; when a great feast in honour of St. Margaret being about to be celebrated at Dumfermling, the English General, and most of the troops, left the camp to assist at the festival. The besieged seized the favourable opportunity, collected all the boats they could find, and broke down the dam; on which the water rushed out with such impetuosity, as to overwhelm the camp of the besiegers, and throw them into the utmost confusion. The besieged returned to the

castle in triumph, and were no more disturbed. At the end of the lake, where it empties itself into the Leven, are still to be distinguished some remains of this dam or mound.

THE circumstance, however, that renders this castle particularly conspicuous in Scottish history, is the confinement here of the accomplished but unfortunate Mary. After she was taken prisoner at Pinkie, in the year 1567, the confederate lords conveyed her privately from Holyrood-house by night, and shut her up in this castle, under the care of the mother of Murray, afterwards regent, who had been married to Douglas of Lochleven.

THIS woman, whose manners were as rude, as her conduct had been irregular, bore an implacable ill will to Mary, alledging that her own son was the true and legitimate heir to the crown. Under such a guardian the confederates knew she would be watched with care.

HERE she suffered all the miseries of a rigorous captivity, which she endeavoured to mitigate as well as she could, by practising those accomplishments she had learned in happier days, and which now afforded her a constant source of consolation: here it is supposed she composed and sung to the lute, some of those effusions of lyric poetry, which have been attributed to her.

NOT content with depriving her of her liberty, they forced her, by threats and promises, to sign an instrument, acknow-

ledging her resignation of the crown, and appointing Murray, a person she hated, as regent. When she subscribed this deed, she was bathed in tears; and while she gave away, as it were with her own hands, the sceptre she had swayed so long, she felt a pang of grief and indignation, perhaps one of the severest that can touch the human heart.*

In this secluded fortress she languished for months, and seemed almost forgotten, till the haughty conduct of the regent estranged from him many of the confederates, and the length and rigour of her imprisonment had moved many to compassion; so that her few friends who had been dispersed, began again to gather and unite, and were daily increasing, when she recovered her liberty in a manner no less surprising to them, than unexpected by her enemies.

Several attempts had been made to rescue her, which the vigilance of her keepers had rendered abortive; but neither the walls nor bolts of the fortress were barriers against love. Mary had those bewitching charms which always raised her friends. These charms she employed to captivate the heart of George Douglas, her keeper's brother, a youth of eighteen. She treated him with the most flattering distinction, and even allowed him to entertain the most ambitious hopes. Thus circumstanced, was it possible for a youth like him to resist such a temptation? He yielded, and drew others into the plot. On

* Robertson, Book V. and Keith, 425.

Sunday, the 2d of May, 1568, while his brother sat at supper, and the rest of the family were retired to their devotions, one of his accomplices found means to steal the keys out of his brother's chamber, and opening the gates, the queen and a female attendant, under the protection of her lover, reached a boat prepared for the purpose, and threw the keys into the lake, having previously locked the doors. An alarm was soon given: confusion ran through the castle; hasty lights were seen passing and repassing at every window, and traversing the island in all directions; but no boat could be found. The boat in which the queen was, soon reached the shore, where she was received with the utmost joy by Lord Seaton, Sir James Hamilton, and a few attendants. She instantly mounted on horseback, and rode full speed towards Niddrie, the seat of Lord Seaton, in West Lothian; here she arrived without interruption, and, after resting for three days, set out for Hamilton, which place she reached early the next morning; an astonishing exertion, when the delicacy of her frame, not accustomed to such violent exercise, is considered.*

The largest island in Lochleven is called St. Serf's Isle, which is situated about two miles south-east from that on which stand the ruins of the castle; it contains forty-eight acres of good pasture, and on it was formerly situated the ancient priory of Lochleven, dedicated to St. Serf, or Servanus. This priory is said to have been founded by Brudo, last king of the Picts, who made a grant of the island to St. Serf and the Culdees.†

* Keith, Robertson, Gilpin, &c. † Pennant's Tour.

LOCHLEVEN abounds with fish, among which are pike, perch, eels, char, and very fine trout, the flesh of which is red, and of peculiar delicacy. The fishery is rented by the two inns at Kinross.

Aug. 8. EARLY in the morning we went to take another view of the charming scenery of Lochleven, and after breakfast set off for Stirling.

AT the distance of about six miles from Kinross we left the road, in order to see some waterfalls on the river Dovan.* The first we visited, was what is not improperly called the Caldron Linn, about eight miles distant from Kinross.

HERE the Dovan, which we saw murmuring along its pebbly bed, suddenly enters a deep linn, or gully, and there, finding itself confined, by its continual efforts against the sides, has worked out a cavity resembling a large caldron, in which the water has so much the appearance of boiling, that it is difficult to divest one's self of the idea that it is really in a state of violent ebullition. From this caldron, through a hole below the surface, the water slowly finds its way under the rock into another circular cavity, in which it is carried round and round, though with much less violent agitation. This second caldron is always covered with a foam or froth. From this boiler the water runs,

* Dovan is derived from *Dobh-an, swelling or raging water*, a name very properly applied to this river, because it frequently and suddenly swells to a very great height.—Stat. Account.

in the same manner, by an opening in the rock beneath its surface, into another, which is larger than either of them, the diameter of it being twenty-two feet. The water in this cavity is not agitated as in the others, but is calm and placid. From this cavern the water rushes perpendicularly over the rock, into a deep and romantic glen, forming a fine cascade, particularly when viewed from the bottom of the glen, to which there is access by a zig-zag path.

THIS cascade is forty-four feet in height, and the rocks which compose the linn are about twice as high, so that it appears as if the water had worn its way from the top to its present situation, which most probably has been the case. It falls in one unbroken sheet, without touching the rock, and the whiteness of the dashing water is finely opposed to the almost black colour of the rocks, which are formed of coarse grained basaltes. While we were contemplating this beautiful scene, the sun happened to shine upon it, and the spray which arises from it to a considerable height, by refracting the rays of light, exhibited the appearance of a luminous vapour, in which the different prismatic colours were easily discernible.

A FEW years ago, the following curious circumstance happened here. A pack of hounds were eagerly pursuing a fox: the animal led them along the banks of the Dovan, till he came to the boiling caldron; there he crossed; but the dogs, in attempting to follow him, and not being probably so well ac-

Rumbling Bridge.

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quainted with the path, fell one after another into the caldron, and were dashed to pieces against the sides. This fact contributed not a little to confirm the reputation of Reynard for cunning and sagacity, in the minds of the spectators.

LEAVING the caldron linn, we walked about a mile, or rather more, up the banks of the Dovan, and came to another linn, or ravine, over which an arch is thrown. The rocks on each side approach so near, that an arch of twenty-two feet span is sufficient to form a communication between the different banks of the river, but the depth from the bridge to the water is no less than eighty-six feet; and the want of a parapet prevents even the steadiest head from looking down this frightful chasm without a degree of terror. The water both above and below the bridge rushing from rock to rock, and forming a number of little falls, produces a constant rumbling kind of noise, which is much increased when the water is swoln by rains: on this account the common people call it the Rumbling Bridge.

WHEN this bridge is viewed from the river below, it is a very sublime object. The sides of the chasm are formed by bold irregular rocks, consisting of a kind of pudding-stone, which are in many places finely covered with brushwood: above the bridge the water is seen running along, in some places concealed from the eye by the jutting rocks and foliage, and in others appearing again. In short, the whole forms a very romantic scene.

About 200 yards above the rumbling bridge, we came to another fall, though but a small one, with a kind of caldron, in which the water has the appearance of boiling. In this cavity, the water is continually tossed round with great violence, constantly dashing against the sides of the rock; this produces a noise somewhat similar to that made by a mill, and on this account it is called by the common people the Devil's Mill, because it pays no regard to Sunday, but works every day alike.

From the rumbling bridge, by a kind of winding path, not easy to discern, we came into the road from Kinross to Stirling. We by no means took the right road to see these curiosities, being misled by some very unintelligent persons. The best way is to keep the high road from Kinross to the bridge over the Dovan, then to turn to the left, and having rode about half a mile along a path at a little distance from the river, the traveller will be very near the rumbling bridge, to which he will be directed by some of the herds or peasants who may be within sight. He should then proceed down the banks of the river to the caldron linn on foot, the horses having been sent forward to a cottage adjoining a school-house on the road.

After riding about five miles along a very indifferent road, we came to Dollar, a small village, with a wretched inn, where we dined. This place is equally distant from Stirling, Kinross, and Dumfermline, being twelve miles from each, consequently

Castle Campbell.

well situated for an inn, and it is a pity that there is not a house which would afford tolerable accommodation to travellers.

From a bridge over a small brook that runs through the village, is a fine view of the ruins of Castle Campbell, situated on the top of a round mound, which seems to have been partly formed by the hand of nature, and partly finished by art. On each side is a ravine, or glen, down which run streams that unite immediately below the castle, and form a considerable brook. The mound on which the castle stands is nearly perpendicular on the side next Dollar, and was formerly disjoined from the surrounding hills by a ditch, shelving down to the bottom of the glen on each side, which rendered the castle inaccessible, except by means of a drawbridge; so that it was formerly a place of very great strength. Though the castle stands upon an eminence, it is surrounded on all sides by higher hills, many of which are wooded to their summits, which gives to the whole scenery a very picturesque effect.

It is not known when or by whom this venerable pile of building was erected. It was formerly called the Castle of Gloom, a name very expressive of its situation; it is bounded by the glens of care, and washed by the burns of sorrow, for so the Celtic names of the glens and brooks are said to signify; but about the year 1493, when it probably first came into the possession of the noble family of Argyle, whose property it still is, it

was called Castle Campbell, by which name it has ever since been known.

THIS castle, with the whole territory belonging to the family of Argyle, suffered by the calamities of civil war in 1645; for the Marquis of Montrose, the enemy and rival of the house of Argyle, carried fire and sword through the whole estate. During this commotion, the castle was destroyed, and its magnificent ruins only remain, a sad monument of the horrors of the times. Not only the castle, but the whole of the parishes both of Dollar and Muckart, were burned, (the inhabitants being vassals of the family of Argyle,) excepting one house, which the followers of Montrose supposed to belong to the abbey of Dumfermline.

FROM Dollar to Stirling we found the road very good and pleasant, being carried all the way along the base of the Ochil hills, a range of high mountains that begin in the parish of Dumblane, east of Sherrifmuir, and stretch for many miles in an eastern direction into Fife. They are of a beautiful green, and afford excellent pasturage for sheep. They abound in minerals; and in several places have the appearance of an igneous origin: in many places quantities of fragments of lava have tumbled down their sides, among which, in the course of a very few minutes, I found several beautiful agate pebbles, containing rock crystals. Some were entirely filled with these crystals;

others were hollow, and lined with them in a most beautiful manner, many of them being of a fine violet or hyacinthine colour.

These hills contain likewise various metals, and seem to be rich in silver; but sufficient attention has not been paid to their mineralogy. I regretted much that my time would not allow me to examine them more particularly. In those parts of the hills lying in the parishes of Logie, Tillicoultry, Dollar, and Alva, veins of copper and lead have been wrought at different periods, to a considerable extent. I have some specimens of copper ore from this neighbourhood, which seem very rich; the gangue is sulphate of barytes, or cawk. Some time between the years 1710 and 1715, Sir John Erskine, of Alva, with the assistance of some miners from Leadhills, discovered a very rich vein of silver. It made its appearance in small threads, which being followed, led to a very large mass of ore; some of it was so rich, that twelve ounces of silver were obtained from fourteen ounces of the ore. A sum not greater than forty or fifty pounds had been expended, when this valuable discovery was made. During the space of thirteen or fourteen weeks, ore was produced to the value of £. 4,000 *per* week; and it has been said, that Sir John Erskine drew from £.40,000 to £.50,000, besides much ore which was supposed to have been purloined by the workmen. When this mass was exhausted, the silver ore began to appear in smaller quantities; and symptoms of lead and other metals were

discovered, on which all further search was given up.* I think it highly probable, however, that great quantities of this metal may exist in these hills. Cobalt has likewise been found in different parts, and particularly among the silver ore, in every respect equal to that brought from Saxony.

THERE have been various opinions respecting the etymology of Ochil; some have thought, that Ochills is a corruption of Oak-hills, there being considerable quantities of oak in this district: the common people do not however call these hills Ochills, but *Aichil-hills*, which is probably from the Celtic, meaning the wood hills, *a coill* in Gaelic signifying *the wood*. The whole extent of these hills presents a pleasing picture of rural scenery, and pastoral life. Gently swelling hills, verdant to their summits, covered with flocks of sheep, or herds of cattle; rivulets stealing through their defiles, or falling in hoarse murmurs from cliff to cliff; with hamlets and villages, sometimes skirted, and sometimes inclosed in woods.

WE had a view of Stirling long before we arrived there; it presented a striking resemblance to Edinburgh, though the view is certainly less grand.

* In the year 1767, Lord Alva, of some of the remains of this ore in his possession, caused a pair of communion cups to be made, for the use of the church of Alva, on which is engraved the following inscription:

Sacris, in Ecclesia S. Servani, apud Alveth, A. D. 1767, ex argento indigena, D.D. c. q. JACOBUS ERSKINE. (Stat. Account of Alva.)

Drawn by W.H. Wade.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

Stirling.

August 9. As we arrived too late on the preceding evening to make any excursion, we determined to devote this day to see whatever was remarkable about Stirling. After breakfast we visited the castle, to which place we were politely accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Innes, chaplain to the garrison. This fortress is like that at Edinburgh, situated on the west end of a rock, which rises out of the plain, on the east side by a gentle elevation, terminating abruptly at the west. This rock is basaltic, being composed of pillars with five or six sides, though they cannot be compared with those of Staffa, in point of regularity; the joints are however in several places very evident. There are two or three basaltic rocks in the valley, within view of the castle, and there appears, as has been before observed, a chain of such abrupt elevations, all the way from the eastern ocean, on one of which the castle of Edinburgh stands, to that on the west, on which the fortress of Dumbarton is situated. These are commonly called the Lennox hills, and all rise by a gradual elevation on the east, are nearly perpendicular on the west, and in most of them basaltic columns are more or less discernible. Near Fintry, considerably to the west, is a rock in this chain called Dun, in which is a very superb range of basaltic columns. This range consists of seventy pillars in front, fifty feet in length; some of them are apparently without joints from top to bottom, while others contain several joints, and are easily separable into loose blocks. Some of these pillars are quadrangular, others hexagonal and pentagonal. On the east side of this range, the columns stand separated from one another, by an interstice of

three or four inches. On the west side the basaltes does not assume a regular form, but ends gradually in a mass of cellular or honeycomb lava. In the parish of Strathblane, in the same range, are likewise to be found similar pillars, particularly one range, about 200 yards in length, where the pillars are from two to three feet in diameter, and thirty in length. But to return to Stirling.

THE castle has once been a place of considerable strength; but such have been the improvements made in the art of war, that it could now scarcely hold out a few hours. About thirty-six guns are mounted on the ramparts.

IT was the favourite residence of the Scottish monarchs, and still exhibits very noble remains of royal magnificence. The palace is now converted into barracks; its inside is totally without any form or regularity, but externally it is very richly and curiously ornamented with grotesque figures, upon singular pillars or pedestals, each of which is supported on the back of a figure lying on its breast, which appears a very painful position, especially when encumbered with such a load, and some of the figures seem to wish to be freed from it, if we may judge of the contortions of the muscles of their faces.

JAMES III. was very fond of this palace, and made it the chief place of his residence. He built a large hall for the assembly of his nobles, and parliament, which is still called the

parliament house; this hall is 120 feet long, had a fine gallery, and was otherwise properly ornamented. It is now however stripped to the bare walls, and converted into a riding-school.

ADJOINING the parliament house, is the chapel royal, which was erected by Pope Alexander VI. It had considerable landed property, and was accounted the richest collegiate church in the kingdom. This chapel has undergone a similar reverse of fortune with the parliament house, being now converted into a store room and armoury.

THIS fortress was the place of the nativity of James II. and in it he perpetrated that atrocious deed which stains his character and reign, the murder of his kinsman, William Earl of Douglas, whom he stabbed with his own hand.* The room where this deed was committed, still goes by the name of Douglas's chamber. James V. was crowned here, and the unfortunate Mary likewise underwent the same ceremony at this place, on the 4th of September, 1543, in presence of the three estates of parliament, with great pomp and solemnity. From the time she assumed the reins of government, till her captivity, this place is mentioned in almost every page of her history, either as the place of her retirement from the insults of her subjects, or from its being the place of confinement of her friends. Almost the whole of the minority of James VI. under his tutor, the celebrated Buchanan, was spent here.

*If we may credit Buchanan, Douglas well deserved to suffer for his insolence and cruelty; but it ought to have been in a different and more ignominious manner.

A STRONG battery was erected during the regency of Mary of Lorraine, about the year 1559, called the French battery. In the reign of Queen ANNE the castle was repaired, enlarged, and a flanking battery, called Queen Anne's battery, with a bomb proof, was erected on the south side; since this time, no alterations or repairs of any consequence have been made.

THE castle is commanded by a governor, deputy-governor, major, two lieutenants, and an ensign, and garrisoned by one hundred men.

UPON the rock, and near the castle, is a flat piece of ground inclosed, which was the place of the tournaments; on one side is a rock, where the ladies used to sit and observe the valour of the combatants; it is still called the ladies' rock.

As this castle was for many ages a principal fortress, we might expect to find that the surrounding country has often been the scene of bloody contention. Twelve fields of battle are pointed out from its walls, and of the four great actions fought by the two first Edwards, three were in its vicinity.

FROM the castle hill is a view inconceivably rich and beautiful, undoubtedly the finest in Scotland, and perhaps scarcely exceeded in any other country. It cannot indeed be called picturesque, being a bird's eye view, but is extremely rich and striking.

On the east is an extensive plain, near eighty miles in length and about eighteen in breadth, rich in corn, and adorned with wood. In this view is comprehended Alloa, Clackmannan, Falkirk, the Firth of Forth, and the whole country as far as Edinburgh. Through this valley the Forth winds in a manner scarcely to be described: it seems as if unwilling to leave the delightful country through which it runs, and as if wishing to prolong the time of its stay, by lengthening its course. Its meanders are so frequent and so large, as to form a great number of beautiful peninsulas, on one of which, just under the castle, stands the tower of the abbey of Cambuskenneth, the only remnant of the once magnificent pile, which was founded by David I. in 1147, and was one of the richest religious houses in Scotland. In the year 1559, the greatest part of this beautiful pile of building was destroyed by the reformers. Some idea of the windings of the Forth may be formed, when it is mentioned, that though the distance between Stirling and Alloa is only six miles by land, it is twenty by water. The Forth is navigable by vessels of seventy or eighty tons as far as Stirling; but, as Mr. Gilpin observes, if they were to trust to their sails alone, through the whole of this sinuous navigation, they must wait for the benefit of every wind round the compass two or three times over.

The view on the north is bounded by the Ochil hills; and on the west is the rich vale of Monteath, bounded by rugged mountains, among which the summit of Benlomond is very conspicuous.

On viewing the rich plain on the east, which is called the Carse of Stirling, every person must be struck with the idea that it has been formerly under water, and constituted a part of the estuary or Frith of Forth, but the river has gradually embanked itself, by the mud and sand which it has brought down from the mountains, and now meanders through the rich valley, contemplating its own workmanship. In proof of this it may be observed, that some years ago a complete boat was found near Falkirk, five fathoms deep in the clay, and anchors have been dug up in the ground between Stirling and Alloa. Oyster shells are likewise found in beds several feet below the surface of the earth, to the west of Stirling.

On returning from the castle to the town, we passed the palace of the Earl of Argyle, or as it is generally called, Argyle's Lodging, on the left: this house is now converted into a boarding school. A little further, on the opposite side of the street, is the house of the Earl of Marr, which was begun in the year 1570, while Marr was regent of Scotland, but was never finished; it is said to have been built from the ruins of the abbey of Cambuskenneth. The outside is ornamented with the same kind of figures as the royal palace in the castle.

In another of our excursions to the castle, we were conducted along a very pleasant walk, which has been carried from the town, round the castle, and in many places cut out of the solid rock; this walk affords several beautiful views, and gives an

excellent opportunity of inspecting the basaltic pillars of which the rock is composed. On a plain below we were shown several intrenchments, where, it is said, the king used to administer justice in the open air, being himself seated on a small mound in the midst, round which was an octagonal rampart, and ditch; on this rampart were seated the nobles, having a ditch surrounding them; without this stood the people, the whole having the appearance of a pyramid with a broad basis, like the British constitution.

THE town of Stirling, a great part of which is situated on the sloping part of the rock that supports the castle, is a place of considerable antiquity. It is very probable that it grew to its present size very soon after it became the temporary residence of royalty; and from the most accurate accounts, it appears to have undergone very little change, either in size, or the number of its inhabitants, for the last six hundred years, till lately,* when a manufacturing spirit having been introduced, a number of new buildings were erected. It contains about 5,000 inhabitants, and is certainly upon the increase since the introduction of the cotton manufacture, which has been carried on here for some years, with spirit and success. As far back as the sixteenth century, a considerable quantity of shalloons have been manufactured here, and though this manufacture is not, I believe, at present in an increasing state, yet not less than 200,000 yards of this article are annually made in the town and neighbourhood. There is

* See Stat. Account of Stirling.

likewise a flourishing carpet manufactory, employing about fifty looms.

THE town is governed by a provost, four baillies, and a dean of guild, assisted by a town council, consisting of twenty-one members, fourteen of whom are merchants, and seven tradesmen, or mechanics. Besides the ordinary jurisdiction in civil causes, which is common to the magistrates of the royal boroughs, and the sheriffs of counties, the magistrates of this town have also a very extensive criminal jurisdiction, equal to that of sheriffs, within their territories.

THERE is a peculiar bye-law of this corporation, which the members of the council annually take an oath to observe, originating in a liberal and disinterested spirit, and which, from its salutary tendency, deserves to be followed by other corporations. By it they bind themselves to take no lease of any part of the public property, under their management, nor to purchase any part of it: neither to receive any gratification out of the public funds, under a pretence of a reward for their trouble, in going about the affairs of the borough. By this bye-law, a board of auditors is also elected annually, consisting of two members, chosen by the merchants at large, and two chosen in like manner by the seven royal incorporations.*

THE manner in which the old treasurer of the town used to keep his accounts, when writing was a more rare accomplish-

* Stat. Account of Stirling.

ment than at present, was sufficiently singular. He hung two boots, one on each side of the chimney; into one of them he put all the money which he drew, and into the other the receipts or vouchers, for the money which he paid away; and he balanced his accounts at the end of the year, by emptying his boots, and counting the money left in one, and paid away by the receipts in the other.*

THERE are two churches in Stirling, called from their situations the east and west churches; the former, which is the present place of worship, is a very fine building, and was erected by cardinal BEATON. The west church is of much older date, being erected, as it is said, in the time of Alexander III. or at least not later than 1494, when some have supposed it to have been built by James V. for the accommodation of some Franciscan friars, whom he brought into this country, and settled in a monastery or convent almost contiguous to the church.† It is a beautiful piece of architecture, but is now so much underground, and low-roofed, as not to be proper for a place of worship.

STIRLING has long been celebrated for its grammar school, which has sent into the world a number of celebrated men, and this place can boast of giving birth to some who have made a considerable figure in the literary world. Among these we may mention Dr. Robert Pollick, who was the first principal of the univer-

* History of Stirling, p. 98. † Stat. Account of Stirling.

sity of Edinburgh, and a very celebrated writer of his age; Dr. Henry, author of the History of Britain; and Dr. Moore, well know as the author of Zeluco, and several other excellent works.

August 10. We this day went from Stirling to Callendar, distant sixteen miles. For the first mile our road was along the base of the rock on which the town and castle stand; we then entered the vale of Monteath, bounded by high hills, among which are Benvorlich on the * north, Benledi and Benlomond on the north-west. This vale is very fertile and beautiful, and watered by the Teath and Forth, which unite their streams about a mile and a half above Stirling. Crossing the Forth, the remainder of our road was along the banks of the Teath, or at no great distance from it.

At the distance of about six miles from Stirling, we passed Blair Drummond, the seat of Mr. Drummond Home, and formerly the occasional residence of his father, the enlightened and patriotic Lord Kaimes. The grounds are very extensive, and have been ornamented with great taste. Near the porter's lodge is a large water wheel, nearly on the principle of the Persian wheel; it raises sixty hogsheads of water from the Teath in a minute, which is conveyed by a canal to the moss of Kincardine, in order to wash this moss off the ground into the Forth. The construction of this water-wheel is very ingenious, but a particular description of it will, I think, be unnecessary here, as a very

* The height of Benvorlich above the level of the sea is 3,300 feet.

full account, both of the machine, and the operations on the moss, is given in the Encyclopædia Britannica.*

This moss originally covered near two thousand acres, three-fourths of which belongs to the estate of Blair Drummond, and is in the upper parts from six to twelve feet deep, and in the lower about three. It reposes upon a bed of clay, and the great object of the late and present proprietor, was to wash or float the moss from the surface of the clay, which has been done to a considerable extent, by conveying to the moss the waters of the Teath, in the way that has been mentioned. This water conveys the moss into the Forth, absolutely blackening its streams with the rich vegetable mould thus carried off. To accomplish this end, trenches are dug through the moss, into the clay, through which the water runs; into these trenches the labourers throw the moss, which is carried away to the Forth. In this way about 400 acres have been cleared and settled by a number of families of industrious Highlanders.

This Herculean labour, for so it may be truly termed, might, in my opinion, have been spared, and such an immense quantity of rich vegetable earth, as well as the dung in the stable of Augeas, might have been turned to much better use than by sending a river through it, to wash it off the ground.

* See Moss of Kincardine. There is likewise a full account of this wheel, and the operations carried on with respect to the moss, in the 21st vol. of Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account.

It is now known, that the principal food of plants is carbon, of which this moss almost entirely consists, and though it is necessary that this carbon should become in some degree soluble, before it can be absorbed by the roots of plants, and converted into vegetable fibre, yet this solubility may be promoted by various processes; one of which is, by mixing it with gypsum *(sulphat of lime)* which acts very powerfully upon it, and converts it into most excellent manure. The use of this substance is not much known in this country, but in Germany and France it is much used. It is not ploughed into the ground like many other manures, but strewed upon the surface of grass land, which is to be taken into tillage, or intended for meadow, about the month of February; it speedily converts the old grass into a putrid state, and thus renders the carbon soluble, so as to be easily taken up by plants, and applied to their nourishment. The same substance, mixed with the surface of peat-moss, which has been formed by the successive decay of vegetable bodies, equally accelerates its putrefaction, and renders it fit for the nourishment of future vegetables.

But as a considerable quantity of this substance would be difficult to procure in this neighbourhood, there is another earth which may be easily obtained, and which answers the same purpose, this is lime; it quickly promotes the putrefaction of the vegetable matter with which it is mixed, and renders it fit for the nutriment of future vegetables. From the experiments made

by Mr. Smith* of Swindrig-muir, near Beith, in Ayrshire, it appears, that nothing more is necessary than to drain the moss, and afterwards to mix its upper surface with a quantity of fresh lime: this not only consolidates the surface in a surprising manner, but will produce the first year an excellent crop of potatoes, which will be more than sufficient to defray the whole expense of draining, liming, &c. After this, it will produce a succession of plentiful crops of grain, for a number of years, without any diminution. Indeed it is evident, that such a soil must be almost inexhaustible; for it consists entirely of carbon, the proper food of plants; and nothing more would be necessary than perhaps once in six or seven years, to mix a quantity of lime in order to accelerate the putrefaction, and consequent solution of the carbon; so that moss grounds, instead of being the most barren and unprofitable, might, by proper management, be made more fertile and productive than any other whatever. Vegetation is nothing but the conversion of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen into trees and plants, by means of vegetable organization and irritability, so that if vegetables be supplied in proper quantity with the soluble carbonaceous principle, and water, they will flourish: so that the great business of agriculture may be resolved into two heads.

1. To supply the plants with proper food, or nutriment.
2. To supply that nutriment in proper quantity.

* A particular account of Mr. Smith's method of improving moss has been lately published, in the form of a small pamphlet, entitled, "An Account of the Improvement of Moss, &c. in a Letter to a Friend."

THE first is accomplished by the application of manures, the basis of which is carbon and water; the latter depends upon the soil in which the plants grow, being of such consistency as to transmit the nourishment in proper quantity.

SUCH is the effect of lime in consolidating moss, aided by draining, that though in Mr. Smith's experiments, before these operations, it would not bear a dog; often after the second, and always after the third year, it can be ploughed and harrowed by horses, and the crops taken off by carts; when about half a dozen crops have been taken, the surface is converted into a fine rich dark mould, which naturally runs into sweet luxuriant grass, and though before the moss is thus improved, it would not let for a penny the acre, yet after it has been laid down in grass, it is worth twenty-five or thirty shillings.

THE consolidation is so great, that at the end of five or six years, if it be laid down with grass, cattle may pasture without breaking or poaching it. As there is generally a superabundance of this vegetable earth in these mosses, part of it might be carried off, mixed with lime, and after a proper time, thrown upon other grounds, on which it would operate as an excellent manure.

THE potatoes produced from moss lands are said to be more free from blemish than any other, and are always preferred for planting again, to those grown on other soils. In Ireland, where

Down Castle.

the cultivation of potatoes is well understood, they are generally planted in bogs or mosses.

The draining and improving Trafford Moss, near Manchester, a very great undertaking, has been carried on for some years with great success by Mr. Wakefield, and Mr. Roscoe, of Liverpool. After draining it, marl is mixed with the surface, which promotes the solution of the carbon, by the calcareous earth which it contains, and the clay may probably assist it in consolidating the surface. A particular account of the operations on Trafford Moss may be seen in Aikin's description of the country round Manchester, which clearly shows that it is not necessary to wash the vegetable matter from the surface of the earth, in order to reach a surface of clay, of all others the most unfit for vegetation.

At the distance of about eight miles from Stirling, and about two miles beyond Blair Drummond, we came to the village of Doune; here we crossed the Teath, and from the bridge had a beautiful view of the ruins of Doune Castle, delightfully situated on a kind of peninsula at the conflux of the Teath and Ardoch.

This castle has been a large square building, the walls being forty feet high, and ten in thickness. What remains of the tower in the north-east corner, is about eighty feet high. The north-west corner of the castle seems to have been the family

residence. The strong wall incloses a square, the side of which is ninety-six feet. The great gate stands on the north, and the iron gate and bolts still remain entire. There are several cells on the ground-floor, on each side of the entrance, which have probably been used as prisons. After entering the square, two outside stairs are seen, one of which leads into the tower, and the other into that part which has been inhabited by the family; this latter leads to a spacious lobby, which divides the kitchen from the great hall; this hall is sixty-three feet long, and twenty-four wide: the kitchen fire-place extends from one side of the room to the other, being supported by a strong arch, and remains a proof of the hospitality of the times. Indeed the whole of this side of the building has the appearance of grandeur and magnificence.

The east stair leads up to the apartments in the tower; the first is a spacious room, with a large fire-place; this room communicates with the great hall at the north-west corner, and has probably been the family dining-room. There are several other large apartments in the upper stories. From the south-east corner of what is supposed to be the dining-room, a narrow stone stair descends, and leads, by a subterraneous passage, to a cell or dungeon, into which no light is admitted, except from a little room above, through a square hole in the roof of the cell, which has probably been left to prevent suffocation, and to let down the scanty pittance of the unhappy victim of the baron's displeasure.

THERE are no dates or traces which discover the time when this castle was built. From its structure it appears to have been very ancient. As it was the family seat of the Earls of Monteath, it was probably built while this powerful family had a share in the government; and as the Earldoms of Fife and Monteath were in separate families, till united in the person of Robert, son of King Robert II. of Scotland, the most probable conjecture is, that this magnificent building was erected by one of the Earls of Monteath, previous to the reign of this prince.

THE following historical sketch is taken from the statistical account of this parish:

THE first Earl of Monteath (Walter Cummin) was created by Malcolm III. in the year 1057, and this nobleman was afterwards appointed lord high steward of Scotland. This Walter was the grandson of Bancho, who was murdered by Macbeth; and having, with the assistance of Macduff (formerly Thane, now) Earl of Fife, quelled a rebellion that threatened Malcolm, and slain the leader of the rebels, the king immediately conferred this high dignity upon him.

IN ancient times, an officer was appointed in each district for collecting the king's revenues, and administering justice, who was called a Thane, and the superior officer over the whole, was called the Abthane. When the title of Earl was introduced by Malcolm in place of Thane, the lord high steward was in the room of the Abthane.

FROM this Walter, lord high steward, descended the family of Stewarts, which reigned so long over Scotland; and though there undoubtedly was a Thane of Monteath before the time of Walter, yet the high dignity conferred on this nobleman, affords ample room to conjecture, that the magnificent castle of Doune was begun, and perhaps finished in his time. What strengthens this still more is, that Malcolm had four sons, Duncan II. Edgar, Alexander I. and David I. who reigned successively over Scotland during a period of eighty-seven years, cultivated the arts of peace, and afforded leisure for such an extensive building as the castle of Doune.

TRADITION however reports, that the castle of Doune was built by Murdac Duke of Albany, and Earl of Monteath and Fife. But however much we may be disposed to give credit to local tradition, yet the account of the life of this unfortunate nobleman, gives great room to doubt how far it was possible for him to rear such an edifice. At that time, no doubt, the power of such a nobleman was great, and having his vassals and dependants ready at his call, he could make a strong effort to erect a building in a short time; but such a building as Castle Doune would require several years.

MURDAC was the son of Robert, who was the son of Robert II. King of Scotland. Robert was created Earl of Monteath in 1370, and in 1398 he was created Duke of Albany. In 1406

he succeeded to the government on the death of his brother, Robert III. and reigned fifteen years.

In the year 1401, Murdac was taken prisoner by the English at the battle of Homelden, and detained till exchanged for Percy in 1411; and on the third of September, 1420, he succeeded his father in the government; but being of a sluggish disposition, and scarce fit to manage his own family, he was obliged to resign the government in four years; it is therefore reasonable to suppose, that he had neither time nor activity necessary for such an undertaking as the building of Doune castle.

The misfortunes of this Murdac seem equal to his indolence; for after being a prisoner in a foreign country ten years, he led a retired life until the death of his father, when he entered on his short reign, and soon became overwhelmed with the load of state affairs. His resignation was suddenly followed by an accusation of high treason against him and his two sons, Walter and Alexander, and Duncan Earl of Lenox, his father-in-law, who were seized and carried prisoners to Stirling. Murdac was taken between Doune and Dumblane, at a small rivulet which is still called Murdac's Ford.

In the summer 1423, the prisoners were tried, condemned, and beheaded on one of the Govane hills, to the north of Stirling Castle. Isabella, Murdac's wife, being carried from Doune Castle to the castle of Tontallan in Lothian, the heads of her

father, husband, and children, were sent to her in prison, to try if, in the agony of grief, she would reveal the supposed treason; but her answer was noble and elevated. "If the crimes," says she, "objected were true, the king has done justly, and according to law." Murdac, his lady, and two sons, were buried on a small island in the lake of Monteath.

During these lamentable transactions, the castle of Doune, as well as Falkland, in Fife, were seized by the king, and remained annexed to the crown till the year 1502, when Margaret, the daughter of Henry VII. king of England, was married to James IV. king of Scotland, and had given her, by way of settlement, the castle of Doune, and certain lands in Monteath. After the death of James IV. she married Henry, Lord Methven, and descendant of Murdac, Duke of Albany. This marriage took place in the year 1528, and immediately afterwards, the queen, with the consent of her son James V. and her husband, Lord Methven, granted to James Stewart, a younger brother of her husband, and ancestor of the family of Moray, the custody of the castle of Doune for his life; and which right was afterwards extended to his heirs by James V. This office had been enjoyed by the family of Edmonstone of Duntreath, and occasioned a violent quarrel between the families, which ended, as quarrels often did in those times, in the assassination of James Stewart by Edmonstone. But James, the son of the above James Stewart, obtained possession of the castle, and was afterwards created Lord Doune by charter, in the year 1581. Since this period, the

castle has remained in the possession of the family of Moray without interruption.

THE village of Doune is not large, but is in a very improving state, and pleasantly situated. What has chiefly contributed to the increase and improvement of this place, is the introduction of the cotton manufacture. An extensive work, called the Adelphi Cotton Mill, was erected a few years ago, by some public spirited and enterprising brothers, the Buchannans, of Carston, on the south bank of the Teath, a little to the west of Doune, for the spinning of cotton yarn. This extensive work employs about 700 persons, for whose accommodation all the ruinous houses of Doune have been repaired or rebuilt. Mr. Murdoch, of Gortincaber, has likewise built a street of houses on the south side of the Teath, with a convenient garden to each. This, which is called the New Town of Doune, is chiefly inhabited by families employed at the cotton works. The workmen are paid according to the quantity and quality of their work, which makes them very industrious, as well as dexterous: some hands will earn two guineas a week.

FOR some time past, Doune has been noted for excellent slaters, who have aquired superior reputation in that branch over all the neighbouring country, particularly Glasgow and its vicinity, where they are often invited to contract for modern buildings, in preference to the slaters of other places. They work in these towns during summer, and the more industrious

among them learn other trades, such as shoe-making, weaving, &c. which they practise when the season will not admit of their slating.

DOUNE has likewise been long celebrated for the manufacture of highland pistols. This art was introduced here about the year 1646, by Thomas Cadell, who carried it to such great perfection, that no pistols made in Britain excelled, or perhaps equalled those of his making, either for sureness, strength, or beauty of workmanship. He instructed his children, and several apprentices, who carried on the business here with great reputation. While the ancient dress before described was common, there was a great demand for the Doune pistols, and presents of them were frequently sent by noblemen in this country to foreign princes; they were sold from four to twenty-four guineas a pair.* As the business has of late years declined, there is only one person now engaged in it, and it is likely that at his death it will become extinct.

FROM Doune we proceeded to Callander,† eight miles distant, where we arrived early enough in the evening to see whatever was remarkable at this place. It is a considerable village, situated on both sides of the Teath, and built on a regular plan; the houses are in general good, and covered with slate. In-

* Stat. Account.

† Callander is probably derived from the Celtic *Caldin-doir*, signifying the hazel grove; there being several groves or woods of hazels in the immediate vicinity of this village. (Stat. Account of Callander.)

cludingthe soldiers settlement (which consists of houses built by government for pensioners, after the peace of Paris in 1763) the number of families in the village is 190, which, if we allow five persons to a family, gives the population at 950; we may however safely state it at 1,000, which is I believe under the truth. This village has increased greatly within the last thirty years, and will do still more so, on account of the introduction of the cotton manufacture. In the weaving of muslin, about a hundred looms are employed in Callander and the adjoining village Kilmahog, and about a hundred girls find employment in a tambour work.

The church stands on one side of a kind of square, near the middle of the village: it has a pavilion roof, with a spire over the pediment, and is a considerable ornament to the place. A stupendous rock rises on the north of the village, which adds much to its picturesque appearance; this rock is covered with wood wherever there is any soil. It is entirely formed of pudding-stone, composed of rounded pebbles inclosed in a brown lava; it resembles very much the rocks near Oban, and has no doubt had a similar origin.

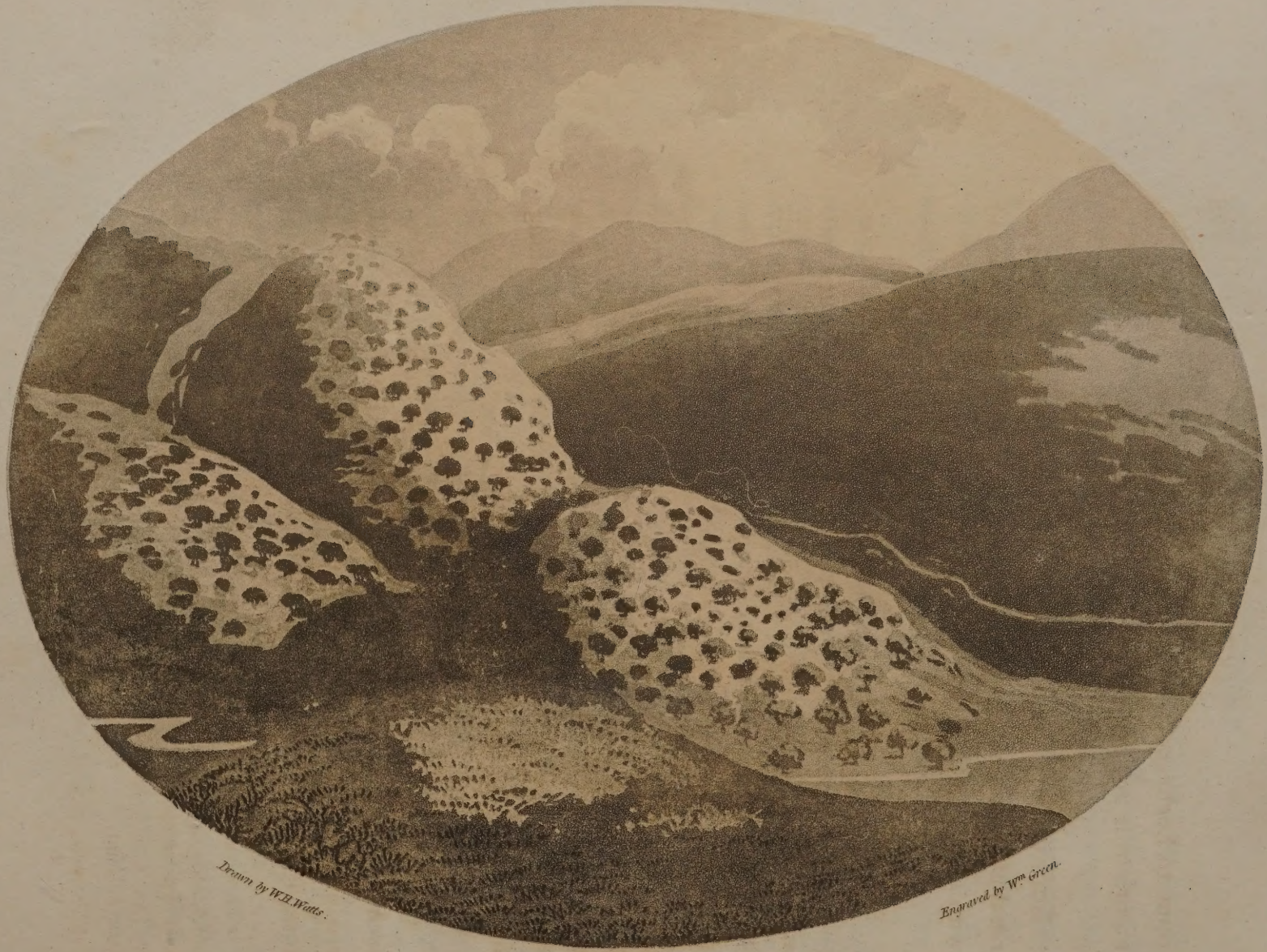
As it was our intention to visit Loch Catharine the next morning, we were advised by the people of the inn to procure a guide; which is scarcely necessary, there being no difficulty in finding the way, and we were imposed upon by the person who went with us in that capacity.

AUGUST 11. About seven o'clock in the morning we set out from Callander, along the banks of the Teath, and passed through the small village of Kilmahog; on our right we saw the house of Leney, the residence of John Hamilton Buchannan, Esquire, proprietor of that village, pleasantly situated on an eminence; here we crossed the Teath,* and skirting the southern limb of Benledi,† a high mountain on our right, we

* In this river, particularly about Callander, are considerable quantities of muscles, which some years ago afforded great profit to those who fished them, by the pearls they contained, which sold at high prices. Some of the country people made 100*l.* in a season by that employment. This lucrative fishery was however soon exhausted, and it will probably require a considerable time before it can be resumed with profit, because none but the old shells, which are crooked like a crescent, and which have undergone certain changes, produce pearls of any value. Faujas de St. Fond says, that no pearls are found unless the shells have been perforated by worms or other means, which lets the pearly juice exude, and forms nodules of pearl; vide Buffon's Natural History of Minerals. When neither side of the shell has any cavity or perforation, but presents a surface smooth and free from callosities, pearls are never found in such shells, so that the formation of this beautiful animal product is merely an extravasation of pearly juice, in consequence of a puncture, and may be artificially produced.

They are fished with a kind of spear, consisting of a long shaft, and terminated by two iron spoons, forming a kind of forceps; the handles of these spoons are long and elastic, which keep the mouths closed, but they open upon being pressed against any thing: with this machine in his hand by way of staff, the fisher, being up to the chin in water, gropes with his feet for the muscles, which are fixed by one end in the mud and sand, he presses down the forceps, which opens and grasps the shell, and enables him to pull it to the surface. He has a net bag hanging by his side to carry the muscles till he comes ashore, where they are opened.

† Benledi is 3,009 feet in height above the level of the sea: its name is derived or contracted from *Ben-le-dia*, or the hill of God: according to tradition, the people of the adjacent country, to a great distance, assembled annually on its top, about the time of the summer solstice, during the Druidical priesthood, to worship the Deity. This devotional meeting is said to have continued three days. Stat. Account of Callander.



Trosachs.

came to Lochvanachoir,* out of which the Teath runs, though its origin is properly in Loch Catharine.

Lochvanachoir is nearly four miles in length, and in general about one in breadth; its banks are very pleasant, covered with wood, and sloping gently into the water.

Soon after leaving this lake, we came to another, but smaller, called Lochachray.† The length of this lake is about a mile and a half, and its breadth scarce more than half a mile, but its banks are very pleasant, being covered with wood. The scenery at the upper part is remarkably bold and striking.

It was here that we had the first view of the Trosachs,‡ which are rough, rugged, and uneven hills; beyond these is seen the rugged mountain Benvenu, which differs in nothing from the Trosachs, except in magnitude.

As soon as we had passed Lochachray, we entered the Trosachs by a road winding among them. The scenery here is exceedingly wild and romantic; rugged rocks of every shape surround the road, and in many places overhang it; these rocks are

* Loch-van-a-choir signifies the lake of the white or fair valley.

† Lochachray is contracted from *Loch-a-cravy*, which signifies the lake of the field of devotion. Achray is the name of the farm on its banks, where it is believed the Druids had a place of worship, there being some remains of one of their temples. Stat. Account.

‡ Trosachs, or *Drosachs*, in the Celtic, signifies rough or uneven grounds.

almost covered with heath, and ornamented to the very top with weeping birch. This part of the road presents scenery which is wild and horrid; it seemed to be Glencoe in miniature; but the mountains, though vastly smaller, are more rugged, and being covered with heath and birch wood, have a different character.

I SHALL not enter into a further description of the Trosachs, for it is impossible by words to convey any idea of the kind of scenery. These hills had been described to me by several persons who had visited this place, and I had read some descriptions of them, but could form no distinct idea of what I was to see: as I have no pretensions to superior powers of this kind, I shall leave the task to Mr. Watts, whose pencil will give an exact representation of some part of this scenery.

THE Trosachs are composed of argillaceous schistus, stratified and imbedded here and there with veins of quartz. The strata are in some instances nearly perpendicular to the horizon, and in all dip very much,—a proof that some convulsions, or powerful causes, have removed these lumpish hills from their original situation. Some suppose them to have been torn from the sides of the adjacent mountains, but there are, I think, no appearances which warrant this conclusion.

AFTER we had followed the winding road which may be seen in the engraving, among these strange masses, for about three quarters of a mile, we had a sight of the lower part of Loch

Loch Catherine.

Catharine, winding its way among the Trosachs, some of which appear above its level surface in the form of bold and rugged islands and promontories. The scenery about this lake is uncommonly sublime, particularly when we had gone about a mile up the northern bank, where the road has been made with great labour, in many parts out of the solid rock, but which is impassable for a carriage, and can scarcely be travelled over on horseback with safety. Here, turning back our eyes towards the Trosachs, the view was particularly grand; rocky islands rise boldly out of the lake, and in the back ground is Benvenu, rearing its rugged summit far above the whole, having its lower part clothed with wood.

THE view up the lake to the westward is likewise very fine; the expanse of water being bounded by alpine mountains, softened by distance, and appearing of a fine dark blue.

LOCH CATHARINE is about ten miles in length, but not much more than one in breadth, and if it possess not the beauty of other lakes which we had seen, its scenery is much more grand and romantic.

NEAR the foot of the lake, the honourable Mrs. Drummond, of Perth, has erected some huts of wicker work, for the convenience of strangers who visit this wild scenery; here they can partake of the refreshments which they bring from Callander, and shelter themselves from a storm.

THE wood, which abounds on the banks of Loch Catharine, is made into charcoal, a certain portion being cut down annually, and when burnt, it is brought down to the foot of the lake in boats, from whence it is conveyed in carts to the Carron foundry. The *Circea Alpina*, or mountain enchanter's nightshade, grows in great abundance on the banks of this lake; the pebbles found on the shore are chiefly argillaceous and micaceous schistus, with some quartz.

LOCHVANACHOIR abounds both with salmon and trout, and Lochachray with pike, which prevents almost any other fish from living in its vicinity. In Loch Catharine are trout and char, but the salmon and pike are prevented from entering this lake, by a fall at its mouth.

THESE three lakes are only expansions of the beautiful river Teath, which may be said to originate in Loch Catharine, or more properly in the numerous streams that pour into this lake in cataracts from its steep and rugged banks.

AFTER having seen whatever was remarkable in the neighbourhood of Loch Catharine, we returned by the same road to Callander, and as it was our wish to make the best of our way to Glasgow, after dinner we took the cross road to Fintry, sixteen miles distant. About six miles from Callander, we came to the Loch of Monteath, a beautiful little lake about five miles in circumference, adorned with two small sylvan islands. On the

larger are the ruins of a monastery, and on the smaller the remains of an ancient seat of the once powerful Earls of Monteath, whose chief residence, as has been before observed, was Doune Castle.

This lake abounds with perch and pike, which last are very large. A curious method of catching this fish used to be practised. On the islands a number of geese were collected by the farmers, who occupied the surrounding banks of the lake. After baited lines of two or three feet in length had been tied to the legs of these geese, they were driven into the water. Steering naturally homeward in different directions, the bait was soon swallowed. A violent and often tedious struggle ensued, in which, however, the geese at length prevailed, though they were frequently much exhausted before they reached the shore.* This method of catching pike is not now used; but there are some old persons who remember to have seen it, and who were active promoters of this amusement.

At the distance of about fifteen miles from Callander, we crossed the Endrick, which falls into Loch Lomond, and soon after came to Fintry, a very improving village, or rather two villages, an entire new town having been built at some distance from the old one, for the accommodation of the manufacturers, since the introduction of the cotton manufacture. The houses stand in a row on one side of the road, and are built according

* M'Nayr's Guide.

to a regular plan, each consisting of two stories and garrets. The situation is very pleasant and dry, and there are gardens belonging to the houses, in front, on the sloping banks of the Endrick, separated from the houses by the road.

On the opposite side of the river is a large cotton mill, 156 feet in length, and 40 wide, which employs above a thousand hands.

At a little distance from the village, at the end of the hill of Fintry, is to be seen the range of basaltic pillars before mentioned.*

August 12th. We left Fintry early in the morning, and crossed the high ridge of hills called Campsie Fells, to the village of Campsie, which is eight miles distant. These hills have the appearance of a volcanic or igneous origin; in many parts, rude basaltic pillars are to be seen, particularly on the side of the road which slopes down the hill above Campsie: in these hills very beautiful agates are sometimes found, as well as considerable quantities of chalcedony.

The highest ridge of the Campsie hills is 1,500 feet above the level of the sea, and 1,200 from its base. These hills have a very bleak and dreary appearance; but when we gain the summit, the valley of Campsie, which lies below, appears very rich and beautiful.

* See page 149.

Though in many places these hills appear evidently of volcanic origin, yet in others they are stratified; but the strata dip very much, and are in many places almost perpendicular to the horizon, having, most probably, been raised from their naturally horizontal state, by the action of subterraneous fire. The secondary, or stratified mountains, abound with coal and lime, grit, ironstone, clay, and marl. In one place there are at least a dozen strata of ironstone of different thickness, separated by argillaceous schistus, which evince, that alternate depositions of these substances have taken place in a very curious manner.

In several places there are appearances of copper, but no attempts to find any vein of this metal have yet been made. A few years ago, when the new road over the hills was making, some veins were cut through, containing cawk, or sulphat of barytes, with beautiful calcareous crystals, and some crystals of fluat of lime, very similar to those that are generally found in lead mines; indeed some practical miners have declared, that appearances of lead are very frequent in these hills; but no attempts have yet been made to pursue them. It is by no means improbable, however, that these stratified mountains, which have undergone such disturbance in the disposition of their strata by volcanic fires, which would cause numerous fissures, do really abound with metallic substances.

Campsie, like Fintry, consists of two villages; the new one, which is increasing very rapidly, has been built since the intro-

duction of the cotton manufacture. Several branches of this manufacture are carried on with great spirit; here is likewise a very large cotton mill. Indeed this place possesses many advantages for carrying on manuafctures; the soil is naturally dry, and streams of water for the purposes of bleaching, and driving machinery, are very numerous: the quantities of coal and lime may be said to be inexhaustible; and the country is completely intersected by good roads. Glasgow being only nine miles distant, affords a ready market both for the produce of the land and manufactures.

If we compare the present situation of the inhabitants of this part of the country, with certain periods either in the beginning or middle of this century, it will appear astonishingly improved. In the statistical account of the parish of Campsie, is given a table, containing the most remarkable facts relative to parish economics, taken at four different periods, which, as it will serve to show the progress of improvement, not only here, but in Fintry, Callander, Doune, Aberfeldie, and other places, where manufactures have been introduced, I shall take the liberty to transcribe.

Year 1714.

1. Only three cows said to have been killed in the whole parish for winter beef, gentry excepted.

2. The wages of a man servant for half a year 9*l.* Scots, or 15 shillings sterling; some of the best got 12*l.* Scots, or one pound sterling; a woman servant 6*l.* Scots, or 10 shillings, for half a year.
3. No wheaten bread eaten in the parish.
4. No inclosure whatever in the parish, except about gentlemen's gardens or woods.
5. No cart or chaise; the gentry rode to church on horseback.
6. All broad ploughs, the horses yoked abreast.
7. The men wore bonnets and plaids, with plaiding waistcoats, and plaiding hose; no English cloth whatever was worn by the inhabitants, the gentry excepted.

Year 1744.

1. The better sort of farmers joined, and got a cow for winter beef, betwixt two of them; the price being then only thirty-five or forty shillings for a fat cow.
2. No chaise was yet kept in the parish; some few carts, but these were only used to carry out manure in the spring; the wheels were not hooped with iron, and the moment the manure was carried out, these wooden wheels were taken down till the next spring.
3. Perhaps about five or six inclosures were made in the parish; and it must be owned, that these, though few, were substantially built; they remain entire and firm to this day.
4. No wheaten bread, nor English cloth used by the inhabitants.

5. A man servant's wages were from thirty shillings to two pounds per half year; a woman's from fifteen shillings to one pound sterling; men servants, at this period, uniformly got a pair of hose and shoes besides their fee.
6. No potatoes, carrots, or turnips, were used by the inhabitants, and only a few kail were planted in their yards for the pot.

Year 1759.

1. Carts became more numerous, there being about twenty in the parish which had their wheels hooped with iron.
2. The broad plough still continued in many places, though in general the horses were now yoked two and two; still there were no fanners for the mills or barns, the farmers being obliged to winnow their corn in the fields.
3. A man servant came now to receive fifty shillings, and three pounds sterling per half year; and a woman twenty-five or thirty shillings.
4. There were now two chaises in the parish, and English cloth began to be worn occasionally by the better sort of people, along with worsted stockings, and buckles in their shoes.
5. Potatoes were only cultivated in lazy beds.
6. Very decent farmers still thought it necessary to have some part of a fat cow, or a few sheep, salted up for winter store.
7. By the leases granted by the proprietors of the land at this time, the tenants were bound to inclose some part of the

farm; still there was no sown grass in the parish, and the cattle grazed promiscuously in the winter season.

8. There were no clocks in the parish, except in the houses of the gentry and principal inhabitants.

Year 1794.

1. There were nearly two hundred carts in the parish, perfectly equipped for any draught.
2. There were four post-chaises and three coaches, and one two-wheeled chaise, kept by the gentry in proper style.
3. The wages of a man servant were betwixt five and six pounds per half year; and a woman's from two to three pounds ditto.
4. Potatoes are now universally used by all ranks of people, for at least six months in the year.
5. Wheaten bread is now universally used by every description of people; there being two bakers at Campsie, besides some hundred pounds value of wheaten bread brought annually from Kirkintilloch and Glasgow.
6. There have been near three hundred fat cows killed annually about the Martinmas time, for winter provision, besides mutton, beef, and lamb killed through the season, by resident butchers.
7. Every lad now dresses in English cloth, and fancy waistcoats, with thread or cotton stockings; and every girl in cotton stuff, black silk cloaks, and fancy bonnets.

8. The quantity of liquor drank in seventeen public houses in this parish, must be very great indeed; as I have been told that four and five pounds at a reckoning have been collected from a company of journeymen and apprentices on a pay night.

9. The houses of every decent inhabitant of this parish consist at least of a kitchen and one room, generally two rooms, ceiled above, and often laid with deal floors, with handsome glass windows; and I believe few of the tradesmen, mechanics, or manufacturers, sit down to dinner without flesh meat on the table, and malt liquor to drink.

From Campsie we proceeded to Glasgow. It may perhaps be expected that I should give a particular account of this city, as I have done of Perth and other places through which we passed; but this I shall not attempt for the following reasons:

In the first place, to give only a concise account of the different public buildings, the state of commerce, manufactures, &c. would swell this work too much, and would occupy more time than I can at present spare from other avocations.

In the next place, this is rendered perfectly unnecessary, by the history of this city, which has been lately published by Mr. Denholm, in which every part of it is particularly described, with accurate views of almost all the public buildings. A very good historical sketch of the rise and progress of the place, its po-

litical constitution, literary and charitable institutions, commerce and manufactures. As I take it for granted, that no person who visits this city will neglect to avail himself of this useful compendium, I shall be very brief on these subjects.

GLASGOW may, I think, without hesitation, be looked upon as the most improving place in Britain. In speaking thus, it is not intended to compare it with the British metropolis, for the difference of magnitude will preclude all comparison; but there is not another city or town in the British empire which is at present increasing so rapidly in population and opulence. Great numbers of new houses are built every year, yet so rapid is the influx of inhabitants, that it is with the greatest difficulty a tolerable house can be procured. I am credibly informed, that this present year, there are no less than five hundred new buildings erecting. It is almost unnecessary to remark, that in Scotland a single family does not in general inhabit a whole house from bottom to top, as in England, but that each story, or flat as it is called, is inhabited by a different family. Now, if we allow to each house only two families, which I am convinced is under the truth, and suppose the other flats to be occupied as shops and warehouses, these new houses will accommodate a thousand families, or five thousand inhabitants, allowing five persons to each family: yet notwithstanding this increase in the number of buildings, I question much if there be a single house, shop, or warehouse, which is not already provided with tenants; indeed most of them have been let before the foundation was laid.

CONSIDERING the great increase of population for these several years, I think we may fairly state the population of the city and suburbs at eighty thousand. In consequence of the rapid fortunes that have been made by commerce and manufactures, many handsome villas have been erected, which greatly ornament the neighbourhood.

IT might naturally be expected, from the great influx of inhabitants from the highlands, and almost every part of Scotland, and the difficulty of procuring houses, that house-rent would be high, and it is certainly true, that the expense of living is greater here than in any part of Britain: as the surrounding country can supply only a very small part of the provisions and necessary articles of consumption, great quantities must be brought from a distance, and are therefore very dear.

THERE are some beautiful walks in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, particularly the Green, a fine plain to the east of this city, bounded on the south by the Clyde. The greatest part of this extensive plain is surrounded with trees, among which are several delightful walks; from one of these, on the banks of the Clyde, the annexed view was taken, in which that noble river forms a fine fore-ground (if the term may be here used); close to its banks is situated the house of the Humane Society, a small but neat building; at a greater distance the city, with its numerous spires, presents itself, with one of the bridges over the river, and the back ground is formed of some mountains, which are by no means unpicturesque.

Glasgow.

THE first branch of commerce in which the citizens of Glasgow seem to have been engaged, was the curing and exporting salmon caught in the Clyde. During the former part of the last century, the commerce of this city appears to have been trifling, but towards the close of it some spirited exertions were made. Considerable quantities of salmon and herrings were exported to France, from whence, in return, were imported brandy, salt, and wine. At the same time a more free communication was opened with the countries on the Baltic, from which they imported wood, iron, and other merchandize. At present, instead of importing iron, this country exports an immense quantity of that metal.

THE spirit of commerce and enterprise which had already taken root, was most essentially benefited by the union of the two kingdoms; an event from which we must certainly date the prosperity of the city. I have indeed heard it asserted, that the Union was advantageous to England, but detrimental to Scotland. There can be but little doubt, however, that this political event was at least equally advantageous to North Britain as to her southern neighbour. Before this, the speculations of merchants had been much cramped; the ports to which alone they could trade, lay all to the eastward, and the necessary and dangerous circumnavigation of the island, proved a very considerable bar to the prosperity of their commerce. At the Union they had the liberty of a free commerce to America and the West Indies; and taking advantage of this favourable circumstance,

they began to prosecute a trade to Virginia and Maryland. When this American trade commenced, the merchants here had no vessels of their own fit for it; they therefore employed English bottoms, and chartered vessels from Whitehaven and other ports. The first vessel, the property of Glasgow, that crossed the Atlantic, sailed from the Clyde in the year 1718. This trade soon became so thriving, that it excited the jealousy of the first commercial towns in England.

In the year 1735, owing to the occurrence of some favourable circumstances, the commerce began to advance gradually, though slowly. About the year 1750, however, a new mode of carrying on the American trade was adopted, the merchants sending out factors, and disposing of their goods on credit, instead of the former method of bartering one commodity for another. This plan considerably increased the extent of their dealings; and the trade with America continued to advance with rapid strides, till the breaking out of the war with that country, in the year 1775, when it had attained its greatest height. As a proof of the extent of this trade, it may be observed, that out of 90,000 hogsheads of tobacco imported into Britain, Glasgow alone ingrossed 49,000.

The American war was a dreadful blow to the commerce of Glasgow. All commercial intercourse was stopped; and as the fortunes of many of the merchants were embarked in that trade, and America deeply indebted to them, it proved the ruin of

many who had before reckoned themselves possessed of independent fortunes.

But though the commerce of the city was thus interrupted, the spirit which had been raised was far from being extinguished. The merchants began to look out for new sources, and many of them extended their commerce to the West Indies, and the continent of Europe; and though their shipping, at the time of the greatest extent of the American trade, was more than at present, amounting to 60,000 tons, yet it has been for several years on the increase, and so much so of late, that the vessels employed in the trade of Clyde, in 1797, out-numbered those of the preceding year by 252.*

As the Union gave new life and energy to the commerce of Glasgow, so it appears to have been one of the chief causes of the rise and prosperity of the manufactures. That event presented a wide field, from the freedom of trade which this country enjoyed to America and the West Indies. The opportunity was not lost, and from that time several different manufactures have been carried on in this city.

The linen manufacture, which began here in the year 1725, was for a long time the staple of the west of Scotland. This however, from the predilection for Irish linens, and the rise of cotton goods, has not increased of late, but still a considerable

* Denholm's History of Glasgow.

quantity of linens, lawns, cambrics, checks, diapers, &c. are manufactured. Flax is now spun in this neighbourhood by means of machinery, which is a very great advantage; and should the present moment be laid hold of, when neither Ireland nor Holland are in a state for pursuing their manufactures, this country would, in my opinion, soon be as celebrated for its linens as for its muslins. The flax, at least a great part of it, as I have already pointed out,* might be raised in this country; which would be a double advantage. As there are now so many competitors in the cotton branch, the profits must be much reduced; and though fortunes made by these manufactures will be more common, they certainly will seldom be so large as they have been; it would therefore be worth while for persons possessed of considerable capitals, to turn their attention to the manufacture of linen, which would for a considerable time afford much greater profit.

COTTON is now, however, the grand staple of the Glasgow manufacture; and in order to carry it through all its branches, cotton mills, bleach fields, and print works, have been established not only on the streams in the neighbourhood, but even in remote situations. And though great numbers of mills have been erected,† still they are by no means able to supply the

* Vol. i. p. 156, note.

† A very large mill is erecting in the immediate vicinity of Glasgow, by Mr. Pattison, consisting of six stories; the length of it is 165 feet, and it will contain 22,000 spindles.

quantity of yarn required, so that large quantities are brought from England, and particularly from Manchester.

By a computation made in the year 1791, it appeared that there were 15,000 looms employed in this branch in Glasgow and the neighbourhood; that each loom gave employment to nine persons on an average, in the various stages of the manufacture; so that, including women and children, this branch at that time gave employment to 135,000 persons. Each loom on an average produces goods to the value of 100 *l.* per annum, making in the whole the sum of 1,500,000 *l.** Since this time, the manufacture has increased rapidly, but to what extent it is not easy to say. I think, however, we may state the increase at one half, and be considerably within bounds.

It is almost needless to mention, that this city has been long celebrated for its University. The numbers of able men who have taught here the different branches of science, as well as the many learned characters who have been educated in this *alma mater*, are well known, far beyond the limits of this publication. Among the professors who have filled different chairs here with lustre, may be mentioned Dr. Robert Simpson, the celebrated mathematician; Dr. Adam Smith, Dr. Hutcheson, Dr. Reid, Dr. Cullen, Dr. Black, and Professor Anderson. Among the great men who have been educated here, may be mentioned Buchanan, the elegant Latin poet and historian;—

* Denholm's History of Glasgow.

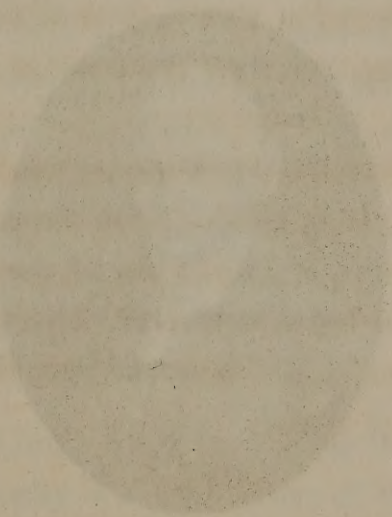
Spottiswood; and Dr. William Hunter.—Mr. Burke was once a candidate for the professorship of logic, but did not succeed.

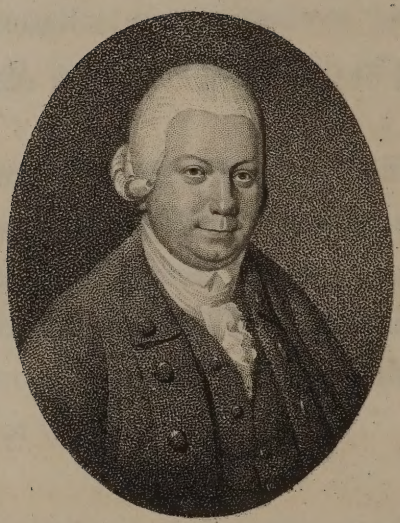
THIS celebrated seminary of learning was founded in the year 1450, by William Turnbull, Bishop of Glasgow, and confirmed by a bull from Pope Nicholas V. The founder endowed it with an ample revenue, and procured several privileges for its members from James II. The institution, at its establishment, consisted of a chancellor, rector, dean of faculty, a principal who taught theology, and three professors of philosophy.

AT the Reformation the University suffered greatly; its members who were ecclesiastics having dispersed themselves to avoid the popular fury; and it was not till the reign of James VI. that the institution began to revive. That monarch granted a new charter of erection, and bestowed upon the University the tythes of the parish of Govan.

THE University is at present composed of the following members, viz. a chancellor, rector, dean of faculty, principal, and sixteen professors. Among the different branches taught here, ought to be particularly mentioned that of Law: the lectures of Professor Millar have long been celebrated, and attended by students from all parts of Great Britain and Ireland.

AS a medical school likewise, the reputation of this University has been annually increasing; and the establishment of a hos-





John Anderson M.A. F.R.S.

Late Professor of Natural Philosophy

in the University of Glasgow.

Cochrane pinxt.

Wm. Evans sculp.

Published January 1st. 1800, by Cadell & Davies, Strand.

pital has contributed not a little to this. The museum of the late Dr. Hunter, containing a very fine collection of anatomical preparations, which was bequeathed to the university, will be a great acquisition to it. Besides the anatomical preparations, this museum contains a curious and valuable library of scarce books and manuscripts; the collection of shells, corals, insects, and fossils made by the late Dr. Fothergill; and a cabinet of coins and medals, ancient and modern, the most complete and best connected in Europe. This last article alone cost Dr. Hunter upwards of 25,000*l.* sterling. Several of the professors accommodate in their houses a limited number of young gentlemen, as boarders and private pupils.

ANOTHER academical institution has been for some years established in this city, denominated

ANDERSON'S INSTITUTION.

THIS institution was founded by the late Mr. Anderson, professor of natural philosophy in the university of Glasgow, who left to the trustees appointed to conduct it, the whole of his valuable apparatus, library, and museum, as well as his property of every other kind. It is under the direction of eighty-one trustees, consisting of the nine following classes: 1. Tradesmen, or mechanics. 2. Agriculturists. 3. Artists. 4. Manufacturers. 5. Physicians and surgeons. 6. Lawyers. 7. Divines. 8. Natural philosophers. 9. Namesakes, or kinsmen of the founder.

EACH class has a power to fill up by ballot all vacancies that may happen in any of them by resignation or death; and if they neglect to do so for a certain time, the vacancies are to be filled up by ballot at a general meeting of the trustees.

FOUR general meetings of these trustees are appointed to be held annually, viz. on the day of the summer and winter solstice, and of the vernal and autumnal equinox. At these meetings every thing relative to the interest of the institution is considered, and decided by a majority of votes.

NINE ordinary managers are annually chosen by the trustees from their own body. These managers meet on the first Thursday of every month, to conduct the business of the institution, and report their proceedings to each of the general meetings.

BESIDES these governors of the institution, nine visitors of the university are appointed by the will of the founder, to superintend their conduct. These visitors are, the lord provost of Glasgow; the eldest baillie; the dean of guild; the deacon convener; the president of the faculty of physicians and surgeons; the dean of the procurators; the moderator of the synod of Glasgow and Ayr; the moderator of the presbytery of Glasgow; and the moderator of the presbytery of Dumbarton.

As the funds left by Professor Anderson were deemed inadequate to carry on the institution with confidence, a number of

public-spirited citizens agreed to support what promised to be so advantageous to the city and neighbourhood; a subscription was opened, and a considerable sum raised. For the two first years the different lectures were carried on in rooms granted by the magistrates of the city to the trustees, in the new grammar-school buildings, and in the trades hall; but the public-spirited exertions of several trustees have put the institution in possession of a handsome building, which, besides affording rooms for the accommodation of the apparatus, library, museum, &c. contains one of the most elegant and commodious lecture rooms in Britain. The form of this room is that of a hemisphere, the diameter of which is forty-five feet. In the centre of the dome is a large window, and in the sides, two small ones, which can be darkened in an instant, when this is necessary to be done for particular experiments. From the centre of the great window is suspended a handsome glass lustre. The table on which the experiments are made is the arch of a circle, round which the different seats rise in concentric arches, properly elevated above each other; and the lecturer being placed in the centre of the circles, of which the seats are portions, every person sits directly facing him. This room will easily accommodate five hundred auditors. On the outside is a suite of apartments, containing the library, museum, apparatus, a chemical laboratory, a workshop, and other conveniences.

THE apparatus is unquestionably the most complete and extensive in Britain. It was collected by Mr. Anderson during

the space of forty years, with great expense and trouble; and since it came into the possession of the institution, it has been considerably augmented by the trustees, particularly the chemical part; and I have added to it a complete collection of modern instruments, made by the late Mr. Adams, of which I allow the use to the institution. The mechanical part is particularly extensive, containing, besides the usual apparatus for demonstrating the principles of mechanics, working models of different kinds of machinery, and a very complete apparatus for illustrating fortification, and every part of military tactics, particularly artillery.* In the museum is a very good collection of minerals, consisting of about 1,500 specimens, now arranged scientifically according to Dr. Babington's tables. The library contains some thousands of volumes of well selected books on all the different branches of physics, among which are the most celebrated French authors.

THIS institution was set on foot in the year 1796, in which year I was appointed professor of physics and philosophy. I began three courses of lectures in November, and have continued them for the three last winters.

THE first is a complete scientific course on physics and che-

* The late Professor Anderson was particularly fond of these subjects. Among other discoveries, he invented a method of preventing the recoil of guns, by making the gun act by means of a piston, on a body of air contained in a box. This enabled him to reduce very much the weight of artillery, so that a six or nine pounder may be carried on a litter by two horses, and fired in that situation.

mistry, with their application to the arts and manufactures. One lecture of this course is delivered every morning, and the following are the branches comprehended in it:

THE properties of matter are first explained, with a view of the theory of Boscovich; after which come the laws of motion, and the principles of mechanics. The principles are first demonstrated mathematically, and afterwards illustrated by experiments, and then the application of each part to the arts and manufactures pointed out, and, where it can be done, illustrated by models of machinery. After this comes the doctrine of heat, which occupies a considerable number of lectures. After illustrating the general effects of heat, and Dr. Black's theory of fluidity and evaporation, I proceed to point out the discovery made by Count Rumford.

HAVING explained the cause of fluidity, we proceed to the principles of hydrostatics and hydraulics, rivers, lakes, inland navigation, &c. The mechanical properties of the air are next examined, which constitutes pneumatics; after which come acoustics, the theory of the winds, and music; the method of curing chimneys according to Count Rumford's plan, meteorology, and aërostation.

BEING thus acquainted with the mechanical properties of the air, we next take a view of its chemical properties, and in about forty lectures, the principles of chemistry are pointed out, and illustrated by experiments; then follows the application of che-

mistry to the different arts and manufactures, particularly etching, and the different modes of aquatinting, dyeing, bleaching and calico-printing, in which the different processes are performed before the students; this part of the course concludes with the application of chemistry to agriculture, and to the analysis of mineral waters.

After this follows a comprehensive view of mineralogy, in which all the specimens are exhibited, and their nature and formation explained, with geological observations.

We next proceed to the principles of electricity and magnetism; and after having considered these two branches, and particularly the former, at considerable length, we proceed to optics. In this part, the principles of the science are pointed out; afterwards the structure of the eye and the phenomena of vision are considered, and an account of optical instruments given: the subject is finished by a view of the theory and practice of perspective.

The last part of the course consists of physical astronomy, which is comprised in ten or twelve lectures only, because a more particular consideration of it would exclude some more useful parts of the course, and the completion of this part is left to the lecturer on astronomy and geography.

I trust I may be allowed to say, that there is no course in Britain which comprehends so much, and is at the same time

so full on each subject; and this arises from a particular attention to economy with respect to time. The lecture begins precisely at the hour; all recapitulation is avoided, and what is usually introduced to spin out less comprehensive courses, carefully excluded.

BESIDES this course, I give a popular one on experimental philosophy: this course only occupies one lecture a week, which is in the evening. Here all mathematical and abstract reasoning is as much as possible avoided, the most pleasing and interesting experiments introduced, and the whole calculated to give an idea of those subjects to those who have not had leisure or opportunity for investigating them, and to refresh the memories of those who have. It is intended likewise as introductory to the scientific course.

THE third is a popular course of chemistry, which takes up, for the first part of the session, one evening, and in the latter part, two evenings every week. In this course, the principles of chemistry, with its application to the arts and domestic economy, are pointed out, and illustrated by experiments.*

BESIDES these courses, during the summer I give a short course on botany, and the theory of agriculture; and the next

* I have printed a text book for this course, under the title of "Outlines of a Course of Lectures on Chemistry," which is sold by Cadell and Davies, London.

winter I propose a course on the philosophy of natural history; the following outline of which has been laid before the managers:

The course is to begin with a general view of the universe, in which I shall describe the different nebulæ, or systems of fixed stars, and point out the probability of their being suns, round which different worlds revolve. We shall next fix our attention on one of them, our sun, and shall examine the different planets which revolve round it, with the various phenomena which they exhibit, and shall then confine ourselves through the remainder of the course to the planet on which we are placed, and in which we are most interested. We shall first examine the different theories concerning its formation, the changes which it appears to have undergone from volcanic fires, and the waters of the ocean; this will give an opportunity of introducing some interesting remarks on mineralogy, on existing and extinct volcanoes, and collections of basaltic pillars. After this, we shall examine the atmosphere which surrounds the earth, and point out its most striking properties, both chemical and mechanical; and shall then describe the several changes this fluid undergoes from winds, thunder, &c. and give an account of the formation of mists, clouds, rivers, and lakes.

We shall next take a view of the different living beings on the surface of the earth, and first of Man, in which we shall trace his progress from infancy to old age, the unfolding of reason,

the faculty called instinct, &c. Next will follow a view of the philosophy of living matter, with a general outline of physiology; the effects of different climates on the colour of the human species; the progress of man in society, from rudeness to refinement. After this will be pointed out the most remarkable particulars with respect to other animals, such as their modes of life, migration, &c. The course will be concluded with a view of the vegetable kingdom, or the philosophy of botany, with the theory of agriculture and gardening.

BESIDES these courses of lectures, which, excepting the last, I have now delivered for three sessions, two others have been delivered this last winter by Mr. Lothian, the professor of mathematics; the first on the elements of the mathematics, and the second on geography and astronomy.

THE number of students attending my lectures this last session, was 525; the preceding year about 500; and the first year no less than 975. I accommodate in my house a few young gentlemen as private pupils, who, besides receiving private instructions, attend my lectures, and those of the professors in the University of Glasgow.*

THIS institution is undoubtedly well adapted to the education of young gentlemen designed for manufactures or commerce, who are too often sent from the grammar-school to the counting-house, without acquiring that knowledge which will enable

* The reader will recollect that this was written before my removal to London.

them to fill up, in a rational manner, the many vacant hours which every person must find unemployed in business; which will enable him to appear with advantage in that sphere of life to which the fortune he may possess or acquire will entitle him; or which will enable him to make those improvements in his business he would do, if acquainted with the principles on which his different operations depend. In an institution of this kind, he can study what branches he may think proper, at the same time that he is learning, or attending to his business.

A MUCH more important purpose answered by this institution, however, remains to be mentioned. This is the first regular institution in which the fair sex have been admitted to the temple of knowledge on the same footing with men; and it must be said in their praise, that they have not neglected to avail themselves of it; nearly one half of my auditors, to each course, having been ladies, since the commencement of the institution.

THE most splendid seminaries have in all ages, and in every civilized country, been founded and endowed with the most profuse liberality for the education of men; every science that could exalt the genius, humanize the heart, or enlarge the understanding, has been taught them with unremitting pains; while the softer sex, whose minds are naturally moulded to refinement, and who are at least equally capable of the enjoyment of intellectual pleasures, have been left to languish in ignorance,

and suffered, for want of opportunities, to acquire a taste for what is frivolous, and unworthy of the human mind.

If we trace the progress of society from rudeness to refinement, we shall uniformly find, that the female sex has approached its proper place, as the latter has advanced. In the savage state, the despot Man thought every employment unworthy of his dignity but war and the chace; the culture of the ground as well as all sorts of domestic drudgery were committed to women, who were thought inferior to their lords, because they had not strength to share in their savage employments. The warrior and the hunter could not submit to domestic occupations; he basked whole days by the fire, or in the sun; and a sloth, joyless and supine, succeeded or relieved the dangers of the battle, or the fatigues of the chace.

As refinement took place by slow and gradual steps, the fair sex were treated with more kindness, and in the more polished states became exempted from drudgery, and suffered to dine at the same table with their lords. With the advancement of civilization, attention to the female sex increased, till in the days of chivalry, a ridiculous attention or gallantry took place, which was equally degrading to them, as rational beings, with their former treatment. This kind of attention has been continued to modern times, and the epithet ridiculous, will not, on examination, I think, be deemed improper.

Suppose any sensible and well-informed man should address

to his own sex the flattery and absurd nonsense with which he assails the other; would he not be knocked down, or confined in a mad-house? But why does he treat the female sex in this manner? When in their company, why does he not converse rationally on subjects of taste, of science, or of morality, as when he is in company with men? Because their minds have not been cultivated, and they cannot take a share in such conversation.

But is the female mind incapable of cultivation? If we look round, we shall find in all who have had equal opportunities, that at least equal improvements have been made. With what justice the female mind has been charged with having less capacity for knowledge than men, I appeal to all who have read the works of those ladies who have cultivated their understandings.

The frivolous pursuits for which the fair sex have been condemned, ought not to be imputed to them, but to their education. Can it be expected that the female mind, confessedly more lively and active than that of the other sex, can sink into indolence and inactivity; or can it be supposed that any other than frivolous pursuits can engage the attention, where no care has been taken to instil a taste for rational knowledge, and where the cares of business do not occupy the mind? On examination, it will be found that the uncultivated minds of men, if not immersed in business, give way to much more unworthy and irrational pursuits than those of the other sex.

THE ladies of this city are undoubtedly much indebted to the founder, as being the first person in this island who set on foot a plan of rational education for them, which affords the means of acquiring knowledge, not only useful to themselves in various circumstances of life, and capable of always supplying a rational amusement, without the necessity of seeking it elsewhere; but which fits them for companions for the other sex, and puts them on a footing of equality in conversation; besides, it enables them to fulfil, with credit and propriety, the most important occupation in life, which is generally committed to their charge: I mean the cultivation of the infant mind, which is to lay the foundation of the morals, patriotism, religion, and all the virtues that adorn society. It is justly observed by an excellent writer, that the seeds of virtue and morality are oftener sown by the mother than the tutor.

I FEAR that the egotism I have been obliged to use in speaking of this institution, will have disgusted the reader; but scarcely any account of it has yet been given by any writer, and I wish to hold it up as a kind of model to the larger towns in England, where similar institutions might be easily established. The only difficulty would be the raising of a sum for a building and apparatus; for there is scarcely any place where such an institution ought to be established, where there would not be found some persons capable and willing to give the lectures for the emoluments that might arise, and other considerations.

WHILE we were resting ourselves for a few days at Glasgow, after the fatigue of our journey, before we proceeded to the falls of the Clyde, we received an invitation from the reverend Mr. Rennie, minister of Kilsyth, to visit that place, in order to see a curious mummy which had been discovered in a vault under the church, near a year before. This place is about 14 miles distant from Glasgow. The vault had been closed up; but Mr. Rennie had the goodness to order an opening to be made, through which we descended with difficulty, but were amply repaid for our trouble; for, though the body was by no means in that high state of preservation that it was when first discovered, having received some injury from the air, and still more from the sacrilegious hands which had torn away part of the shroud, still it was wonderfully perfect. Mr. Watts took a drawing of it, which he afterwards corrected under the eye of Mr. Rennie, so as to make it exactly resemble the appearance of the body when first discovered.

MR. RENNIE politely offered to draw up a particular account of the circumstances attending this mummy, which I afterwards received from him, and which I shall insert in his own words.

"THERE is an arched vault, or burying ground, under the church of Kilsyth, which seems to have been the burial place of the family of Kilsyth for many generations.

"As the estate was forfeited, and the title became extinct in the year 1715, it has never been used for that purpose since that

Lady Kilsyth.

Drawn by W.H.Watts.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

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period. The Earl fled with his lady and family to Flanders, and though he returned more than once *incog.* in the habit of a common beggar, and as such lodged with several of his tenants, yet it is certain he was not buried at Kilsyth.

"The tradition is, and it is said to be confirmed by some papers and letters lately found, that he, and a number of the unfortunate noblesse, who had been concerned in the rebellion, were either murdered, or killed by a sudden accident in Holland, about the year 1717.

"At all events it seems certain, that this lady, with her infant son, were smothered by the falling in of the roof of the room, in which a number of the noblity who had been concerned in the rebellion were assembled. It is generally said and believed, that this was not by accident, but design: that the landlord and some of his accomplices had cut the beams which supported the roof, and that upon a signal being given, he let it fall in with a view to smother the whole company. It appears that very few escaped, and I never heard it doubted or denied, that Lady Kilsyth and her infant perished in the ruins. Indeed the wound she received on the right temple is still visible, and when the body was first discovered, it was covered with a black patch, about the size of a crown priece. There is no mark of violence on her son. He seems to have been smothered, as it is generally said, sitting on the knee of his mother at table.

"Her body was embowelled and embalmed, and soon afterwards sent over to Scotland. It was landed, and lay at Leith for some time in a cellar, and was afterwards carried to Kilsyth,

and buried in great pomp, according to the form of the church of England. It is not twenty years since some of the inhabitants of this parish died, who were in their youth eye-witnesses of the funeral.

"THE body was inclosed, first in a coffin of fir, next in a leaden coffin, nicely cemented, but without any inscription; this was again covered with a very strong wooden coffin. The space between the two was filled up with a white matter, somewhat of the colour and consistence of putty, apparently composed of gums and perfumes, for it had a rich and delicious flavour. When I was a boy at school, I have frequently seen the coffin in which she lies, for the vault was then always accessible, and often opened: but at that time the wooden coffin was entire. Indeed it was only within a few years that it decayed. Even after this, the lead one remained entire for a considerable time; but being very brittle and thin, it also began to moulder away; a slight touch of the finger penetrated any part of it. In the apertures thus made, nothing was seen but the gummy matter above mentioned. When this was partly removed, which was easily done, being very soft, and only about an inch in thickness, another wooden coffin appeared, which seemed quite clear and fresh.

"BUT no one ever thought of opening it, till the spring 1796, when some rude regardless young men went to visit the tomb, and with sacrilegious hands tore open the leaden coffin. To their surprise, they found under the lead a covering of fir, as clean and fresh as if it had been made the day before. The cover of this being loose, was easily removed. With astonish-

ment and consternation, they saw the body of Lady Kilsyth, and her child, as perfect as the hour they were entombed.

"For some weeks this circumstance was kept secret, but at last it began to be whispered in several companies, and soon excited great and general curiosity. On the 12th of June, while I was from home, great crowds assembled, and would not be denied admission. At all hours of the night as well as the day, they afterwards persisted in gratifying their curiosity.

"I saw the body soon after the coffin was opened. It was quite entire. Every feature, and every limb was as full, nay the very shroud was as clear and fresh, and the colours of the ribbons as bright as the day they were lodged in the tomb.

"What rendered this scene more striking, and truly interesting, was, that the body of her son and only child, the natural heir of the title and estates of Kilsyth, lay at her knee. His features were as composed as if he had been only asleep. His colour was as fresh, and his flesh as plump and full, as in the perfect glow of health; the smile of infancy and innocence sat on his lips. His shroud was not only entire, but perfectly clean, without a particle of dust upon it. He seems to have been only a few months old.

"The body of Lady Kilsyth was equally well preserved, and at a little distance, with the feeble light of a taper, it would not have been easy to distinguish whether she was dead or alive. The features, nay the very expression of her countenance, were marked and distinct, and it was only in a certain light that you could distinguish any thing like the ghastly and agonizing traits

of a violent death. Not a single fold of her shroud was discomposed, nor a single member impaired.

"But no description can give a just or adequate idea of the neatness or elegance of her appearance. I therefore refer to the sketch taken by your friend. I have only to lament that his representation was finished chiefly from my description, as at the time you saw the body it was much sullied, and the shroud injured: but it is as near the original as I can recollect, or as any pencil can express. I can only say it is not a flattering portrait.

"Let the candid reader survey this sketch: let him recal to mind the tragic tale that it unfolds, and say, if he can, that it does not arrest the attention, and interest the heart. For my part, it excited in my mind a thousand melancholy reflections, and I could not but regret that such rudeness had been offered to the ashes of the dead, as to expose them thus to the public view.

"The body seemed to have been preserved in some liquid, nearly of the colour and appearance of brandy: the whole coffin seems to have been full of it, and all its contents saturated with it. The body had assumed somewhat the same tinge, but this served only to give it a fresher look; it had none of the ghastly livid hue of death, but rather a copper complexion.

"It would, I believe, have been difficult for a chemist to ascertain the nature of this liquid; though perfectly transparent, it had lost all its pungent qualities, its taste being quite vapid. I have heard, however, that several medical gentlemen carried off

small phials full of it, but do not know whether they made any experiments with it. The rich odoriferous flavour continued not only in the vault, but even in the church, for many weeks, as can be attested by many hundreds; all agreed that it was a mixture of perfumes, but of what kind it was not easy to say: the most prevalent seemed to me to be that of spirit of turpentine, and it is certain that this odour continued the longest.

"THE head reclined on a pillow, and as the covering decayed, it was found to contain a collection of strong scented herbs. Balm, sage, and mint, were easily distinguished, and it was the opinion of many that the body was filled with the same.

"ALTHOUGH the bodies were thus entire at first, I confess I expected to see them soon crumble into dust; especially as they were exposed to the open air, and the fine aromatic fluid had evaporated; and it seems surprising that they did not. For several weeks they underwent no visible change, and had they not been sullied with dust, and the drops of grease from the candles held over them, I am confident they might have remained as entire as ever; for even a few months ago, the bodies were as firm and compact as at first, and though pressed with the finger did not yield to the touch, but seemed to retain the elasticity of the living body. Even the shroud, though torn by the rude hands of the regardless multitude, is still strong, and free from rot.

"PERHAPS the most singular phenomenon is, that the bodies seem not to have undergone the smallest decomposition, or disorganization. Several medical gentlemen (I think you did so

yourself) have made a small incision into the arm of the infant; the substance of the body was quite firm, and every part in its original state.

"LADY KILSYTH was of the family of Dundonald; this appears from Craufurd's Peerage, and other undoubted authority. She is there called Jean, daughter of Lord William Cochrane, son and heir of William Earl of Dundonald.

"IT is equally certain that she was first married to the Viscount Dundee, and even after she married her second husband, she still retained this title; for he was then the heir apparent only of the title and estates of Kilsyth, and of course till the death of his father she was not called Lady Kilsyth.

"THERE was a singular circumstance attending this connection. She had come on a visit to Colzium, the seat of the family of Kilsyth, about a year after the battle of Killicranky, in which her husband the Viscount Dundee fell. At that time it was said that William Livingston (afterwards Viscount Kilsyth, and her husband) first paid his addresses to her. As a pledge of his love, he presented her with a ring; but as ill luck would have it, she dropped it next day in the garden. To lose a ring in such circumstances, and so soon, was, no doubt, regarded as an evil omen; a liberal reward was therefore offered to any person who should find and restore it, but in vain; it could not be found; and till the year 1796, nearly a century after, was never heard of.

"AT that time, however, the tenant of the garden, when digging potatoes, discovered it in a clod of earth. At first he

regarded it as a bauble, but the moment the legend became apparent, the tradition came fresh into his recollection, and he instantly supposed it to be the ring of Lady Kilsyth.

"It is of gold, and about the value of ten shillings; about the breadth of a straw, and without any stone. The external surface is ornamented with a wreath of myrtle, and on the internal surface is the following legend, *zovrs onlly & Euer.* This ring is, I believe, in the possession of Sir Archibald Edmonston, of Duntreath, the proprietor of the Kilsyth estates."

To this account, given by Mr. Rennie, I can only express my regret, that this body, which had been so admirably preserved, should be wantonly destroyed or damaged. Had it been inclosed in a glass case, when discovered, it would in all probability have remained for centuries in the same state.

August 15. In the afternoon of this day, we set out to see the falls of the Clyde, accompanied in this journey by the dear partner of my domestic happiness, little thinking that this would be the last jaunt we should take together. The weather was delightful, her spirits remarkably good, and I think I never contemplated the beauties of nature with more pleasure than during this little tour. Though I beheld the scenery of the highlands with that enthusiasm which I always feel when contemplating the grand or beautiful features of nature, yet I felt a dreary blank in my mind, on the reflection that the enjoyment of those scenes was not shared by her. This blank was now filled completely.

ALAS! how bitter is the reflection that now daily and hourly fills my mind! I am an insulated being, and the beautiful face of the creation presents to me nothing but a dreary waste. When I endeavour to call to my recollection the happiness I enjoyed in this little excursion, I can scarcely think it real, so faint a trace has it left behind.

'Tis like the snow falls in the river,
A moment white—then melts for ever;
Or like the borealis race,
That flit ere you can point their place;
Or like the rainbow's lovely form,
Evanishing amid the storm.*

IT seems as if my whole life had been a life of misery, while the swift moments of happiness have scarce left an impression. How strongly do I feel the force of the following beautiful sentiment:

Ay de mi! un Ano felice
Parece un soplo ligero:
Pero sin dicha un instante
Es un siglo de tormento.

I AM sensible that I ought to apologize to my readers for the introduction of private misfortunes, in which few of them can be interested; but reflections similar to these continually dwell on my mind, and almost exclude every other idea. No wonder then that they should sometimes escape from my pen.

* Burns.

THIS short tour presents undoubtedly one of the most delightful rides in Scotland; the road from Glasgow is generally near the Clyde, whose banks are beautifully wooded. The first six miles of it are not however very interesting; at that distance we came to the village of Uddingstone, and soon after to the ruins of Bothwell castle, situated on the north bank of the Clyde. Though it has been long in ruins, it still exhibits remains of its ancient grandeur, and the power of its possessors. The whole building is very extensive, it has the form of an oblong square, being 234 feet in length, and 100 in breadth; its walls are upwards of fifteen feet in thickness, and in many places sixty feet high, built of a kind of red grit; three of the towers yet remain out of the four, of which two are pretty entire; in the highest, the stair-case is still tolerably perfect, and conducts to the top, from whence is a beautiful and extensive view to the westward. The interior area of the castle is now converted into a bowling-green and flower-garden.

THIS castle made a conspicuous figure in the history of Scotland. Concerning the date of its origin, history and tradition are however equally silent. In the reign of Edward I. it was the residence of the English governor; we find it in particular in the possession of Aimer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, a governor of Scotland during the reign of this monarch, and it was hither that he fled upon his defeat by Bruce, at the battle of Loudon-hill in 1307. On the forfeiture of Pembroke, it had a variety of possessors; and, among the rest, a man most

notoriously marked in the annals of Scotland for the audacity and splendour of his crimes, the Earl of Bothwell, whose name it still bears. From Bothwell it descended to Archibald the Grim, Earl of Douglas, in whose family it continued till their attainder in 1445. After a variety of transmissions, it reverted to the family of Douglas in 1715, in whose possession it now remains. Near the castle is Bothwell-house, the present residence of Lord Douglas, a very handsome building of red stone, charmingly situated, and surrounded with woods.

OPPOSITE to Bothwell castle, on the other side of the Clyde, stand the ruins of Blantyre Priory, on a rock rising almost perpendicularly out of the river; and a considerable part of the walls, on a line with the brink of the precipice, still remains. Between the castle and this priory, tradition informs us, there formerly existed a subterraneous passage under the Clyde, by which the female part of its inhabitants fled in time of danger to the protection which a monastery afforded.

LITTLE account can be now procured of the origin and history of this religious establishment. It appears from some ancient records, that it was originally a sort of colony from the monastery of Jedburgh.* Upon the abolition of religious houses in Scotland in the sixteenth century, it fell into the hands of Walter Stuart, lord privy seal, who was afterwards created Lord Blantyre, in whose family it has since continued.

* See Stat. Account of Blantyre. Denholm's History. Hope's Minor Practics.

After viewing these memorable monuments of antiquity, we passed through the village of Bothwell, where is an ancient church, a good specimen of Gothic architecture. At the distance of about a mile from Bothwell, we came to Bothwell bridge, memorable for a battle in the year 1679 between the whigs, or covenanters, and the king's army commanded by the Duke of Monmouth, and which was fatal to the affairs of the former. At the distance of two miles further, we came to Hamilton, a town of considerable size, but irregularly built. It attracts the attention of the traveller, chiefly on account of Hamilton house, the residence of the Duke of that name. This, though a very superb building, is a heavy one, consisting of a front or centre, with two very deep wings. It seems to have been built at different periods: the most ancient part was erected in the year 1591, but the more modern, and most considerable part, was built about the end of the last century. Some of the apartments are very large, particularly the gallery, in which is a good collection of pictures, decidedly, I believe, the best in Scotland.

Among these is the celebrated picture by Rubens, of Daniel in the lion's den, which is undoubtedly one of the finest productions of that great master. I cannot give a better description of this fine picture than in the words of Gilpin:

"The prophet is represented sitting naked in the middle of a cave, surrounded by lions. An opening at the top, through which he had been let down, affords light to the picture. In

his face appears ineffable expression. Often do we hear the parading critic, in a gallery of pictures, displaying the mixed passions where they never existed. For myself, indeed, I cannot see how two passions can exist together in the same face. When one takes possession of the features, the other is excluded. But if the mixed passions ever did exist any where, they exist here. At least from the justness of the representation, you are so entirely interested in the action, that the imagination is apt to run before the eye, and fancy a thousand emotions, both of hope and fear, which may not really exist. The former appears the ruling passion; but a cold damp sweat hangs evidently on the cheek, the effect of conflict. The whole head indeed is a matchless piece of art. Nor is the figure inferior. The hands are clasped: agony appears in every muscle, and in the whole contracted form. In a word, nothing can be more strongly conceived, more thoroughly understood, more delightfully coloured, or more delicately touched, than this whole figure. I should not indeed scruple to call it the noblest specimen I have ever seen of the art of Rubens. It is all over glowing with beauties, without one defect. At least it had no defect which I was able to discover.

"But although the principal figure (on which I dwell, because it is so very capital) exceeded my expectation; yet the whole of the picture, I must own, fell far beneath it.

"The composition is good. The lions, of which there are six, with two lionesses, are well disposed; and stand round the prophet with that indifference, which seems to have arisen from

satiety of food. One is yawning, another stretching, and a third lying down. An artist of inferior judgement would have made them baying at the prophet, and withheld by the Almighty from devouring him, as a butcher restrains his dog by a cord. The only fault I observed in the composition, arises from the shape of the picture. The painter should have allowed himself more height, which would have removed the opening at the top to a greater distance, and have given a more dismal aspect to the inside of the den. At present the opening is rather paltry. This has induced some judges to suppose, what does not seem improbable, that the picture was not originally painted on one great plan; but that the painter, having pleased himself with the figure of Daniel, added to the appendages afterwards.

"But the great deficiency of this picture is in the distribution of light. No design could possibly be better adapted to receive a better effect of it. As the light enters through a confined channel at the top, it naturally forms a *mass* in one part of the cave, which might *gradually fade away*. This is the very idea of *effect*. The shape of the mass will be formed by the objects that receive it; and if bad, must be assisted by the artist's judgement. Of all this Rubens was aware; but he has not taken the full advantage which the circumstances of his design allowed. A grand light falls beautifully on his principal figure, but it does not graduate sufficiently into distant parts of the cave. The lions partake of it too much; whereas, had it been more sparingly thrown upon them, and only in some prominent parts, the effect would have been better; and the grandeur and

horror of the scene more striking. Terrible heads standing out of the canvass, their bodies in obscurity, would have been noble imagery, and have left the imagination room to fancy unpictured horrors. That painter does the most, who gives the greatest scope to the imagination; and those are the most sublime objects, which are seen in glimpses, as it were mere coruscations; half viewless forms, and terrific tendencies to shape, which mock investigation. The mind, startled into attention, summons all her powers, dilates her capacity, and from a baffled effort to comprehend what exceeds the limits of her embrace, shrinks back on herself with a kind of wild astonishment, and severe delight. Thus Virgil describing the gods, who, enveloped in smoke and darkness, beat down the foundation of Troy, gives us in three words, *apparent diræ facies*, more horrid imagery, than if he had described Jupiter, Juno, and Pallas, in a laboured detail, with all their celestial panoply. For when the mind can so far master an image, as to reduce it within a distinct outline, it may be grand, but it ceases to be sublime, if I may venture to suggest a distinction. It then comes within the cognizance of judgement, an austere, cold faculty; whose analytic process, carrying light into every part, leaves no dark recesses for the terror of things without a name."*

I DO not profess myself a connoisseur in painting: I must own, however, that the same ideas concerning the disposition of the light struck me forcibly when I first saw this celebrated

* Gilpin's Observations on several Parts of Great Britain, Vol. II.

picture; but I cannot by any means agree with this writer, that the lions are painted in a very slovenly manner; on the contrary, they seem to be executed in a highly finished style. This picture is unquestionably the first in Scotland.

HERE is likewise an admirable portrait of the Earl of Denbigh, dressed in a red silk jacket, and holding a gun in his hand. His hair is short and gray, and the countenance is full of nature and character. Some travellers have attributed this picture to Rubens, but it appears to be much more in the style of Vandyke.

THE marriage feast by Paul Veronese, is likewise a very fine picture, in which the obstinacy and resistance of the intruder, who came without the wedding garment, is finely expressed.

HAMILTON HOUSE is situated unpleasantly on a plain, very near the town, which formerly stood clustering round it, when mutual defence and protection rendered this necessary. By degrees many of the houses were pulled down, and since this time the town has extended to the south and west, and left the house in some degree detached.

HAMILTON contains about four thousand inhabitants, and is ornamented with several public buildings, among which is particularly to be noticed the parish church; this elegant building was designed by the elder Adams, and being situated on an elevated piece of ground, is seen to great advantage.

HAMILTON has now a considerable share of the cotton manufacture, the manufactures of Glasgow employing a great number of weavers in this place. A manufacture of thread lace has been carried on here for a number of years, but it is now on the decline.

AFTER seeing what was remarkable at this place, we proceeded through the town, along the Carlisle road, and at the distance of about a mile came to the Avon, a very picturesque river, over which is a bridge, concerning the erection of which there is the following tradition:

SOME controverted point was to be settled by a plurality of voices, at a meeting of the clergy to be held at Hamilton upon a certain day. A priest, who lived southward from the town, had been very zealous on one side of the controversy, and had prevailed with a great number of the brethren in his neighbourhood to join him in supporting it. But on the day fixed, when they came to the side of the river, it was swollen with rains beyond the possibility of passing, and the opposite party carried the point; at which the priest, who was very rich, was so much provoked, that he immediately ordered a bridge to be built at his own expense, to prevent such a disappointment in future.*

LEAVING our chaise at this bridge, we entered the Duke's grounds by a gate, and proceeded up a hill to Chatelherault, a

* Stat. Account of Hamilton.

summer-house belonging to the family of Hamilton: this building, which is in the French style, is said to have been intended as an imitation of the castle of Chatelherault in France, of which the chief of this family was formerly proprietor; he likewise had the title of Duke of Chatelherault.

It is placed on a smooth lawn, the sides of which are sloped, and appears a very large building, on account of the length of the front which it presents, and the four towers in this front; we found, however, that it was more showy than substantial; for this apparently magnificent building consists of a small dining room and a drawing room, with an unfurnished apartment above in one end, and a stable and dog kennel in the other. From the upper room is a very fine view of the country to the northward, bounded by the Campsie hills and Benlomond. In the dining room is a portrait of a horse as large as life, by Stubbs, but I have seen much better pictures by that artist.

This building is situated on the banks of the Avon, which are here very steep and romantic, and is certainly a much more eligible situation than that on which Hamilton house is placed. Indeed the ancient residence of the family, which was called Cadzow Castle, was on the opposite bank of the Avon, where the ruins still remain. It was plundered, and partly demolished, by the army of the regent Murray, in the reign of Queen Mary, since which it has continued in a state of desolation and ruin.

A LITTLE below Cadzow, on the same side of the river, is Barncluith, or rather the remains of it. This was formerly a villa built in the Dutch style, by one of the Hamiltons of Pentcaitland. The house is situated on a lofty and steep bank of the Avon, with terrace walks cut out of the rock one under another, descending towards the river. Evergreens cut into various shapes, according to the taste of the times, stood along these walks. On favourable spots were built small pavilions, and a jet-d'eau, in the middle of a bason, spouted water to a considerable height. This spot overlooked the fine wooded banks of the Avon, rising like a vast ampitheatre, with here and there some prominent rocky cliffs, pushing out their bold fronts, while the water was seen foaming below along its rocky channel. The benevolent proprietor executed these works with a view of giving bread to the poor, and at the same time supporting a habit of industry, in the time of the famine which happened towards the end of the last century.

ABOUT a mile beyond the Avon bridge we left the Carlisle road, and turning to the left entered Clydesdale, a charming valley, adorned with several seats of nobility and gentry. Among these, Maudslie castle, the seat of the Earl of Hyndford, particularly arrests the attention, both on account of its fine situation, and the beauty of its architecture. It is situated on the north bank of the Clyde, and though a modern building, begun in the year 1792, and very lately finished, it is built in the form of a claste, and has, in my opinion, a much nobler effect than the most

Stonebyres.

superb structure in the modern style. It consists of various orders of architecture, and was designed by R. Adam. Though the modern buildings may be more commodious, yet the ancient castles have an air of grandeur and magnificence, better suited to the residence of a nobleman. The offices are in a style corresponding to the house; indeed, I have seldom seen a building that pleased me more.

Soon after we passed Maudslie castle, we crossed the Nethan, by a bridge, above which is a very romantic glen; on a lofty promontory in this glen, stand the ruins of Draffin, or Craignethan castle, anciently a seat of the family of Hamilton, but now the property of Lord Douglas. In this fortress the unhappy Mary found a short asylum, after her escape from the castle of Lochleven.

Proceeding a few miles further, we entered the wood of Stonebyres, and soon heard a hollow murmuring noise, which increased as we advanced; soon after emerging from the wood, we saw a direction post, pointing out the fall of Stonebyres. Alighting from the chaise we descended a steep hill, and at about two hundred paces from the road came to a steep bank of the river, where, from a chair placed there for the purpose by Mr. Dale, we contemplated in security this grand and awful scene. It consists of three breaks, but when the river is full it has the appearance of one unbroken sheet, about sixty feet in height. The river is perfectly smooth and tranquil above, but being here

contracted, forces itself with inconceivable fury over the shelving rocks. The surrounding scenery is very fine, and the immense quantity of water thus tumbling headlong down the rocks of schistus, produces a very grand effect. The dark colour of the rocks divided into strata, or layers, and clothed with wood to the top, contrasted with the white foam of the cataract, forms a scene of the highest sublimity. From the lowest fall the spray rises high into the atmosphere, and gives an indistinctness to the scenery that greatly increases its grandeur.

THIS fall is the *ne plus ultra* of the salmon which come up the river Clyde; none of them get above it, though their endeavours in the spawning season are incessant and amusing.

AFTER having contemplated this scene for a considerable time, we returned to our chaise, and proceeding on the road we crossed the Clyde by a bridge of three arches, and soon reached Lanark, which is about two miles distant from the fall of Stonebyres.

LANARK is one of the most ancient towns in Scotland: some of the best antiquarians suppose it to be the Colonia of Ptolemy, which supposition is by no means improbable, as it is certain that the Romans had in the neighbourhood several stations or camps, and that it lay very near the line of the great Roman road called Watling-street. This town was erected into a royal burgh by Alexander I. whose charter, together with the subsequent ones of Robert I. and James V. was confirmed by Charles I. in the year 1632. This burgh is classed with Linlithgow, Selkirk, and

Peebles, in sending a member to parliament. The electors consist of the common council and deacons of crafts: it is governed by a provost, two baillies, a dean of guild, and thirteen counsellors. The number of inhabitants in 1795 amounted to 2260,* but it has increased very rapidly since the introduction of the cotton manufactures, and cannot, I think, be now less than 3000. There are some tolerable public buildings, particularly the church, town-house, and grammar-school, and a very good inn, which is much frequented in summer by strangers who come to visit the falls of Clyde.†

* Stat. Account of Hamilton.

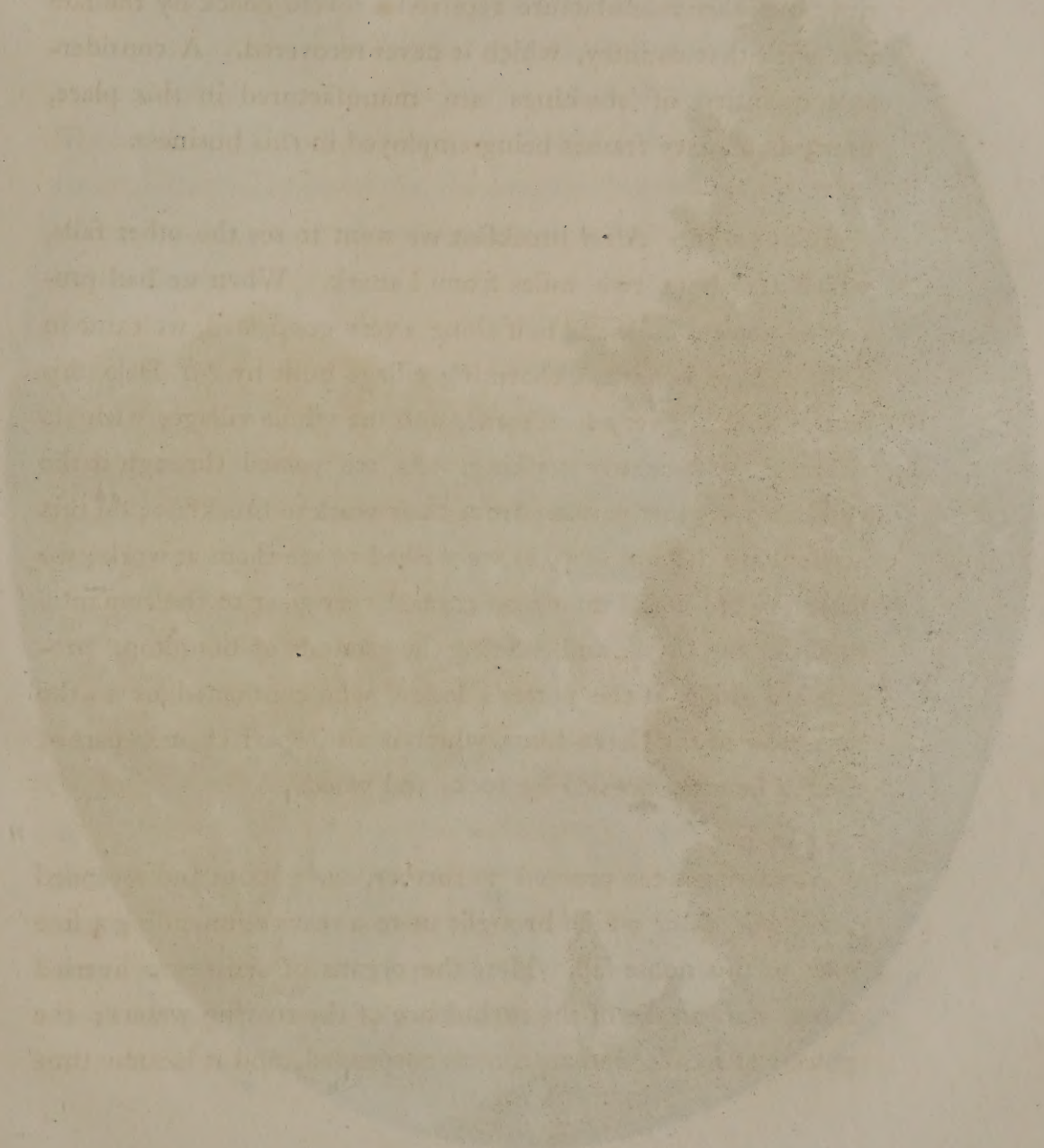
† In this house is kept a book, in which strangers who visit the falls usually insert their names, with what remarks they may think proper. On looking over it, we distinguished many celebrated names, and some apposite observations. The following impromptu had been inserted a few days before our arrival:

What fools are mankind,
And how strangely inclin'd,
To come from all places
With horses and chaises,
By day and by dark,
To the falls of Lanark!
For, good people, after all,
What is a waterfall?
It comes roaring and grumbling,
And leaping and tumbling,
And hopping and skipping,
And foaming and dripping;
And struggling and toiling,
And bubbling and boiling;
And beating and jumping,
And bellowing and thumping.
I have much more to say upon
Both Linn and Bonniton,
But the trunks are tied on
And I must be gone.

The weaving of muslin is the principal manufacture of this place, and employs a great number of hands. A great quantity of shoes were formerly manufactured here, and exported to America; but this manufacture received a severe check by the late war with that country, which it never recovered. A considerable quantity of stockings are manufactured in this place, upwards of sixty frames being employed in this business.

August 16. After breakfast we went to see the other falls, which are about two miles from Lanark. When we had proceeded about a mile and half along a very good road, we came in sight of New Lanark, a charming village built by Mr. Dale: his cotton mills are very handsome, and the whole village, with its situation, particularly striking. As we passed through it the children were just coming from their work to breakfast; on this account we did not stop, as we wished to see them at work; we therefore proceeded up a road carried very near to the romantic banks of the Clyde, and entering the grounds of Bonniton, procured a guide at the porter's lodge, who conducted us to the first view of the Corra-Linn, which is an imperfect one, part of the fall being concealed by rocks and wood.

As carriages can proceed no further, we got out and ascended a zig-zag walk, which brought us to a seat commanding a fine view of this noble fall. Here the organs of sense are hurried along, and partake of the turbulence of the roaring waters; the powers of recollection are almost suspended, and it is some time



Corra Linn

before the spectator is enabled to contemplate with any tolerable complacency the sublime horrors of this scene.

THE stratified rocks which here confine the Clyde, form a kind of amphitheatre of great height, very much resembling, as Mr. Pennant justly observes, a stupendous piece of natural masonry. The water of the Clyde being confined by the jutting of the rocks immediately above the fall, acquires a great velocity, with which it rushes over the rampart with a thundering noise into the deep below.

THIS fall differs in character from that of Stonebyres, but like it consists of three falls, which, when the river is swollen by rains, form one sheet. The upper fall is only a small one; the second much larger; but the lowest is by much the finest both in breadth and height. Just above the second fall, on the right, is a mill; and at a considerable height above stands the old castle of Corra, formerly the residence of a branch of the Sommerville family; a little lower, and more distant from the river, is the house of Corra, a modern mansion, almost hid by lofty trees. When the river is full, the impetus of the water is so great, that it shakes the castle and neighbouring rocks, and our guide informed us, that the house is sometimes so shaken as to spill water in a glass. A fine spray arises from the water and fills the linn, in which we saw the prismatic colours, the sun happening to shine very favourably at the time.

The rocks are wooded to the top, and the trees stretch their arms almost across the fall, which adds greatly to the beauty of the scene; the upper part of the fall is confined within a narrow compass by rocks, and tumbles down in one unbroken sheet: the lower part, however, has room to spread, and falling over a rugged precipice is beautifully broken. The height of this fall is upwards of eighty feet.

Some persons prefer this fall to Stonebyres, while others, on the contrary, give the palm to the latter, which though not so high is much wider. They are undoubtedly both very noble falls; but their character is so different, that it is difficult to say which deserves the preference, as they do not admit of a comparison. The best view of the Corra-Linn, is a few yards above the seat.

The channel of the Clyde above the fall is bounded by rocks of great height, wooded to the top; down this rough channel the river rolls with great impetuosity. From the Corra-Linn, the same walk leads us along these banks to the fall of Bonniton, which is about three-quarters of a mile higher. From a rock hanging over the Clyde, on which a small bastion has been built, is a very good though somewhat distant view of this fall, which though not so high as either of the others, is very beautiful: the height of it is only about 27 feet; it is not broken like the others, but the river here shoots down in one broad sheet into a hollow glen, whence some of it recoils in foam and mist. This fall, though certainly not so grand as the others, is a very

graceful fall, if the expression may be allowed. The surrounding scenery is not, however, so picturesque, on account of a lumpish hill in the back ground, which would be much improved by planting.

From Bonniton-Linn we retraced our steps a little way, but soon ascended by a path, branching to the right, which brought us to a pavilion placed on a hill, directly above the Corra fall. From this pavilion is a very fine bird's-eye view of the fall; and indeed this view, though more distant, is I think nearly equal to that from Ossian's hall near Dunkeld. Here likewise, as at Dunkeld, mirrors are placed, by the reflection of which we had different views of the water. From the west window of this pavilion is a fine view of the cotton mills, and picturesque village of New Lanark, with the variegated banks of the Clyde, the town of Lanark, and the distant hills in the counties of Stirling and Argyle.

The cotton mills and village of New Lanark next claimed our attention. The situation of these works is very romantic; they are surrounded on all sides by high grounds, rising in the form of an amphitheatre, which effectually screen them from view, till we arrive in their immediate vicinity, when all at once, as if by enchantment, they burst upon the sight, and from the magnitude and grandeur of their appearance, produce a happy effect.

The great command of water which could here be obtained, was the principal inducement to erect a manufacture of this kind in this place. The water from the Clyde, which drives the great body of machinery, is for many hundred yards carried through a subterraneous aqueduct, cut for the purpose out of the solid rock. The first mill, which is one hundred and fifty-four feet long, was built in 1785, and having been consumed by fire about three years after its erection, it was rebuilt in 1789. The second is exactly of the same dimensions. The third is one hundred and thirty feet, and the fourth one hundred and fifty-six feet in length.

The two mills which were first built, contain twelve thousand spindles, for spinning water-twist: the other two are occupied by jennies for spinning mule yarn.

The village owes its existence to the erection of these mills. It consists of neat, substantial houses, forming two streets, about half a mile in length, broad, regular, and clean. Near the centre of the village are the mills, and in front of these a neat modest mansion, the occasional residence of the proprietor, with others for the principal managers.

This village contains not less than 1500 inhabitants, about 1400 of whom are employed about the works, the remainder being either too young or too old to work. Of these, about 500 children are fed and clothed by Mr. Dale; the others lodge

with their parents in the village, and have a weekly allowance for their work.

The cotton mills are not different from those in other parts of the country; but what particularly attracts the attention of the traveller, is the healthy and happy appearance of the children employed in these works. The regulations adopted for the preservation of the health and morals of those employed in these extensive works, form a striking contrast to many others, which can only be regarded as seminaries of wickedness and sources of disease.

For the preservation of their health when at work, fresh air is constantly introduced into the mills by opening the windows, and by air holes which are opened in summer below every second window. The air is besides kept pure by frequently washing the floors and machinery with hot water, and the walls and ceilings with lime.

Those who have their maintenance in lieu of wages, are lodged in one house, in six large apartments, containing a bed for every three children. The ceilings and walls of these apartments are white-washed twice a year with hot lime, and the floors once a week with hot water and sand. They sleep on cast iron bedsteads, on a bed tick filled with straw, which is changed once a month. A sheet covers the tick, and over that are thrown one or two pair of blankets and a coverlet, as the

season requires. The bed-rooms are swept, and the windows thrown open, every morning, in which state they remain through the day. Many of the children have provided themselves with boxes with locks, in which they keep their boxes, or any other little property to which they annex a value. The upper clothing of both boys and girls in summer is of cotton, and these, as they have spare suits, are washed once a fortnight. In winter the boys are dressed in woollen cloth, and, as well as the girls, have dress suits for Sundays. Their linens are changed once a week.

THEIR provisions are dressed in cast iron boilers, and consist of oatmeal porridge for breakfast and supper, which they eat with milk during the summer. In winter, its substitute is a composition of molasses and beer. For dinner, they have every day barley broth made from fresh beef, which beef is daily divided among one half of the children, in quantities of about seven ounces to each; the other half are served with cheese, in quantities of about five ounces to each; so that they have alternately beef and cheese for dinner, excepting now and then a dinner of herrings in winter as a change.

To the beef and cheese is added a plentiful allowance of potatoes, or barley bread, which is excellent; and of which last they have a portion every morning before going to work. The working hours are eleven and a half each day, with the intermission of half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner.

Seven is the hour of supper, soon after which the teaching commences, and continues till nine o'clock. Three professed teachers are employed by Mr. Dale for the purpose, who teach, during the whole day, those who are too young to work; on going into the day-school, we heard some little boys read in a very superior manner. In the evening, these three masters are assisted by seven others, one of whom teaches writing. There is likewise a person who teaches sewing to the girls, and another who occasionally teaches church music. The teachers have written instructions, pointing out how far they are to carry forward their scholars, before they are transferred to the next higher class. At dinner the masters preside over the boys at table, performing the office of chaplains, and conduct them on Sundays to divine worship, where they sometimes receive religious instructions from their benevolent master. In the evening of Sunday, all the masters attend to teach, and give religious and moral instruction.*

A GREAT proportion of the inhabitants are highlanders, chiefly from the counties of Argyle, Caithness, and Inverness.

IN 1791, a vessel carrying emigrants from the Isle of Skye to America, was driven by stress of weather into Greenock, and about two hundred persons were put ashore in a very destitute situation. Mr. Dale offered them immediate employment, which the greater number of them accepted. Soon afterwards, with a

* See Stat. Account of Lanark, and M'Nayr's Guide.

view to prevent further emigration, he notified to the people of the highlands and Hebrides, the encouragement given to families at the cotton mills, and undertook to provide houses for two hundred families in the year 1792; these were finished in 1793, in consequence of which a considerable number of highlanders have taken up their residence at New Lanark. Several families, who were last year driven from Ireland by the distracted state of that country, found immediate employment here.

Out of near three thousand children who have been employed at these mills between the years 1785 and 1797, *only fourteen have died;* and not one judicial punishment has been incurred. What ground for exultation must this afford to the worthy owner! What a number of people are here made happy and comfortable, who would, many of them, have been cut off by disease, or, wallowing in dirt, been ruined by indolence! The heart of my dear Catharine, which was always feelingly awake to the misery or happiness of others, exulted at the sight, and I never felt more gratified in my life. This scene formed a striking contrast to what I had witnessed in the highlands. If I was tempted to envy any of my fellow-creatures, it would be such men as Count Rumford and Mr. Dale, for the good they have done to mankind. How truly may it be said of them, "when the ear heard them, then it blessed them, and when the eye saw them, it gave witness of them; because they delivered the poor that cried, the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. The stranger did not lodge in the street; they opened their doors to the tra-

veller; the loins of the naked blessed them, and were warmed with the fleeces of their flocks." *

THOUGH we returned from Lanark immediately to Glasgow, yet as the scenes I have just been describing are in the road from the latter place to Moffat, I shall here insert a short description of this village, with some account of its mineral waters, from notes taken during a three weeks' residence there the preceding year.

FROM Lanark to Douglas Mill is twelve miles, the road is by no means unpleasant. At Douglas Mill is a very comfortable inn, and very near it a good house, the residence of Mr. Campbell Douglas. At the distance of about two miles is the village of Douglas, and in the neighbourhood the ruins of Douglas castle, situated on an elevated piece of ground, and surrounded by ancient woods. From Douglas Mill to Elvan Foot is thirteen miles; the most dreary ride that can be conceived, nothing but barren lumpish hills being visible. The road goes over Craufurd moor, as bleak a country as exists any where: the inn at Elvan Foot is a wretched one; it is, however, the stage house, and a bad chaise or two are kept. Here is a handsome bridge over the Clyde, and at the distance of about five miles from Elvan Foot are the rich lead mines belonging to Lord Hopeton: the district is called

* Since this was written, an English company have purchased Mr. Dale's mills, and a very worthy friend of mine, Mr. Owen, is to have the management of them, who, I have no doubt, will endeavour to perfect the work which Mr. Dale has so happily begun.

Lead Hills, and there is a village containing not less than fifteen hundred persons, who are supported by the mines, about five hundred of whom work in them: they are employed in these mines only six hours out of the twenty-four: having therefore a great deal of spare time, they employ themselves in reading, and for this purpose have established a subscription library, which is very extensive. This way of spending their time gives a steadiness, sobriety, and gentleness to their character, and forms a striking contrast between them and the miners of Cornwall.

THE varieties of ore found here are the potter's lead ore, the small or steel-grained ore, which is very rich in silver, and the white lead ore or carbonat of lead, which is curiously ramified like petrifactions of moss. The galena contains about seventy parts in the hundred of lead; the carbonat about sixty. Some specimens of greenish phosphat of lead are likewise met with.

THE mines are wrought by two companies, who give every sixth bar to the proprietor for rent. A great part of the lead is sent to Leith, where the silver is extracted from it by a company established for that purpose.

PIECES of gold have frequently been found about Lead Hills, in the gravel beneath the peat: small grains of this metal are likewise found among the sand in the rivulets of this neighbourhood, and in the Clyde, particularly between this place and Elvan Foot.

MACKENZIE, in his Life of Boethius, says, "that James IV. having got experienced workmen well skilled in mines, they had so good success, that when James V. went over to France, at a sumptuous entertainment after his marriage, for a dessert, instead of sweetmeats, he presented many plates filled with gold coined in Scotland, and dug out of the mines on Craufurd moor, which were distributed among the company." Some German adventurers were, on stipulated conditions, permitted to explore these parts in quest of gold; they employed about three hundred men for several summers, and procured metal to the value of about 100,000*l.* sterling, the greatest part of which they carried to Germany. These adventurers probably exhausted what was near the surface, and since that time no further researches have been made.

THOUGH this country is so rich in metals, yet nothing can equal the barren and dreary appearance of the surface; neither trees, shrubs, nor verdure, not even a picturesque rock amuses the eye of the traveller.

THE same may be said of the country between Elvan Foot and Moffat, a very bleak and dreary ride of thirteen miles. From these high grounds, and a very short distance from each other, spring the Clyde, the Tweed, and the Annan, which pursue their courses to different parts of the kingdom, a circumstance that points out the great height of their sources. The Clyde runs westward into the Atlantic; the Tweed eastward to the

German ocean; while the Annan directs its course to the south, and falls into Solloway Firth.

When we come to a steep hill, about five or six miles from Moffat, the country puts on an appearance somewhat different; though barren and mountainous, it is more interesting; the forms of the hills become picturesque, and the blue mountains of Cumberland form no bad back ground.

The village of Moffat is situated on a rising ground, at the head of a plain or valley, extending more than twenty miles along the banks of the Annan: it is encompassed on the east, north, and west, by hills of different heights. The principal, and indeed the only street is very spacious: there are two inns, and some very good lodging houses, which are let to invalids who resort to this place during the summer. The church is a handsome building surrounded by trees, which produce a good effect. Indeed, the view of this village is by no means unpicturesque. The annexed view is taken from the Dumfries road, at the distance of about a mile from Moffat. The number of inhabitants is something more than a thousand. Lord Hopeton has a house here, in which he occasionally resides.

Moffat has been long celebrated for its mineral waters, and on this account, numbers of invalids from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dumfries, and various parts of Scotland, resort to it every year; and though in winter a residence here would be very dull and

Drawn by W.A.Wade.

Engraved by Wm Green.

Moffat

dreary, in summer the village is all life and bustle. The two inns accommodate a considerable number, and there are several private lodging-houses in which families can be accommodated.

THE climate of Moffat is said to be remarkably healthy, and the air so extremely pure, as to occasion sneezing and other marks of superoxygenation in persons not accustomed to it, particularly if they have lived for some time in a large town or confined situation: its effects are particularly exhilarating and bracing, as I have myself experienced; and though the showers of rain are frequent and sometimes heavy, as might be expected in a mountainous country, yet a moist or foggy atmosphere is seldom seen. Every opening of the clouds discovers a sky of a beautiful azure, which, in a clear day, assumes a distinctness and brightness that might vie with an Italian sky. These circumstances, with exercise, contribute, perhaps, as much as the waters to restore the exhausted and debilitated constitution.

THE mineral waters are of two kinds, sulphureous and chalybeate; the first has long been distinguished by the name of the Moffat Well, and is situated about a mile and a half from the village. A good carriage road has been made to it, and there is a room and stables for the accommodation of the company while drinking the water.

The spring oozes out of a rock, at the distance of two or three yards only from a little rivulet; a few yards above it is a bog, from whence it probably derives its sulphureous impregnation. The well is covered over with a stone building, inclosing a pump: on one of the stones of this building is the following inscription:

Æque pauperibus prodest
Locupletibus æque.

And on a stone about three yards distant from the building, the following:

Infirmo capiti fluit utilis,
utilis alvo.

The water has a strong smell resembling bilge water, or the scourings of a foul gun, like the sulphureous waters of Harrowgate, though not quite so strong. It has a slight saline taste, and sparkles considerably when first taken from the spring, particularly when poured out of one glass into another. The sides of the well are lined with a whitish crust, and when the water has been suffered to stand for some days without pumping, it becomes covered with a white film; both these, when dried, burn with a blueish flame and suffocating smell, which indicate their being sulphur.

On the ninth of October, when the temperature of the air was 54°, and that of the adjoining brook 48°, the temperature of the spaw was 50°.

THE next day, when the temperature of the air was 60°, that of the spaw was 49°.

THE following experiments were made on the water taken from this well, with the view of ascertaining the nature of its contents.

1. Characters written on paper with *acetite of lead*, were rendered visible on being immersed in the water. The colour was at first brown, and on remaining longer, quite black.
2. A solution of acetite of lead in distilled water, dropped into the water, caused a copious brown precipitate.
3. Tincture of galls produced no change.
4. Lime water produced a very slight turbidness.
5. Tincture of turnsole produced scarcely any sensible redness.
6. Acid of sugar produced no change.
7. Muriat of barytes produced no effect.
8. Nitrat of silver caused a white cloudy appearance, with a copious precipitate.
9. When the water had been boiled for a few minutes, it was not changed by any of these precipitants, except the nitrat of silver.

FROM the first and second of these experiments, it appears that the water is impregnated with sulphurated hydrogen gas; the third shows that it contains no iron; the fourth and fifth indicate but a small quantity of carbonic acid. From the sixth,

it appears to contain no lime, and from the seventh no sulphuric acid. The eighth, however, discovers the muriatic acid, which we shall afterwards find is combined with soda.

10. By means of the pneumatic apparatus, which I described in a treatise I published some years since on the Crescent water at Harrowgate, nineteen cubic inches of permanently elastic fluid were procured from a wine gallon of the Moffat water, of which four were azotic gas, five carbonic acid gas, and ten sulphurated hydrogen gas.
11. A wine gallon of this water was evaporated very slowly to dryness, and 36 grains of *muriat of soda* (common salt) were obtained, some of the crystals of which were very distinct.

HENCE it may be concluded, that a wine gallon of the sulphureous water at Moffat contains,

Of muriat of soda - - - - - - -	36	grains.
Sulphurated hydrogen gas - -	10	cubic inches.
Azotic gas - - - - - - - -	4	
Carbonic acid gas - - - - - -	5	

THIS water will not keep, for though closely corked up in bottles, in the course of two or three days it is found to have lost the whole of its sulphureous smell; it should therefore be used as soon after it is taken from the well as possible.

THE next water which I examined was the Hartfell spaw, which springs from the base of a high * mountain of that name, and is nearly five miles distant from Moffat. It is found at the bottom of a deep and narrow ravine, or linn, the sides of which are entirely laid bare to the very top, and form a very interesting object to the mineralogist, as all the different strata can be distinctly seen. These strata dip towards the bottom of the mountain, and are inclined to the horizon in an angle of about fifteen degrees.

THE lowest stratum is a black soft rock, which easily crumbles to pieces, and consists of clay, with great quantities of sulphuret of iron, and sulphuret of alumine; immediately above this stratum, which is several feet in thickness, lies another, consisting chiefly of argillaceous ironstone; above this, is another stratum of blackish shale, resembling the lowest; and above this, another of argillaceous ironstone of a fine deep red. The ascent up this ravine is very difficult; a small brook tumbles down it, forming some pretty cascades; and very near the foot of the linn is the mineral water, which seems to originate from water filtering through and dissolving the sulphats of iron and alumine of the rock, and in consequence of this, it is, contrary to most mineral waters, strongest after rains. The whole brook deposits an ochre, or oxid of iron, which colours the rocky channel to a considerable distance. Among the rocks above the spring, I found

* The summit of Hartfell, according to the measurement of Dr. Walker, is 3,000 feet above the village of Moffat, or 3,300 feet above the level of the sea.

some beautiful specimens of *alumen plumosum*, and a few green crystals of sulphat of iron.

In these schistous strata, the sulphurets are decomposed by the action of the air, and the contact of water; the sulphur is converted into sulphuric acid, which, combining with the iron and alumine, form the sulphats; these being soluble in water, are washed away, filter among the crevices, and issue in the form of a spring, which is covered with a small building.

Some shafts have been opened in this glen, probably with the hopes of finding lead or copper; about a quarter of a mile below the well, a shaft of considerable extent has been opened, in which are appearances of copper, though I have not heard that any considerable quantity of metal was found. It is, however, very reasonable to suppose, from the appearances of those hills, that they are rich in metallic veins.

The latter part of the road, from Moffat to the Hartfell spaw, is very bad, and almost impassable even for a foot passenger.

This well was discovered in the year 1748, by John Williamson, an eccentric but benevolent character. He believed in the Pythagorean doctrine of the *metempsychosis*, or transmigration of the soul into the bodies of different animals; on this account he never tasted animal food for the last forty years of his life; nor would he suffer the smallest insect to be killed, if he could prevent it.

He was buried in the old church-yard of Moffat, and by particular request, at as great a distance as possible from any other grave. A monument, in the form of an obelisk, was placed over his grave, by his friend and patron Sir George Clerk Maxwell; from the different sides of which I copied the following inscriptions:

On the West Side.

Sacred
To the Memory
of
John Williamson,
who died
M.DCC.LXIX.

East Side.

Protector
of
All the Animal
Creation.

North Side.

The Discoverer
of
Hartfell Spaw.
M.DCC.XLVIII.

South Side.

His Life
was spent in
relieving
The Distressed.
Erected by his friends. M.DCC.LXXV.

THE water is perfectly clear when taken from the well, but gradually deposits, even though sealed up, a little oxid of iron, in the form of a fine impalpable sediment. It has a strong astringent taste, like ink.

THE following is the result of the experiments which I made with it:

1. Tincture of galls dropped into it, produced a colour nearly as black as ink, and this colour was as deep when the experiment was made after the water had been boiled, as it was before, which shows that the iron is not suspended by the carbonic, but by a fixed acid.
2. Muriat of barytes produced a white cloud, and a copious sediment.
3. Acid of sugar produced no change.
4. Acetite of lead produced a slight turbidness, with a white precipitate.
5. Tincture of turnsole was rendered a little red.
6. Lime water produced a slight turbidness, with some precipitate of alumine.

7. By means of the machine, only five cubic inches of gas were expelled from a wine gallon of the water, which was chiefly azotic gas.

8. A wine gallon of the Hartfell water was made to boil gently; it soon became turbid, and deposited a brown powder, after which it was perfectly clear. The powder was collected by filtration, and found to weigh fifteen grains; it was of a yellowish colour, but changed to a beautiful red on exposure to a considerable heat. It was found to be oxid of iron.

THE clear liquor was evaporated very gently to dryness, and the saline matter procured in this manner weighed 96 grains.

THIS was found to consist of sulphat of iron (sal martis) and sulphat of alumine (alum). In order to discover the respective quantities of each of these salts, the whole was dissolved in water, and the iron precipitated by tincture of galls. When this was separated, a solution of salt of tartar (carbonat of pot-ash) was added, which precipitated the alumine in a carbonated state, and from the quantity of carbonat of alumine, it was easy to calculate the sulphat of alumine, which I found to be twelve grains; the quantity of sulphat of iron must therefore be 84 grains.

THIS water tastes much stronger after it has stood for two or three days, even in an open vessel, though it is in fact weaker, because it has lost part of its iron by standing. The sulphuric

acid losing part of its iron, its taste becomes more sensible, and the water approaches nearer to a solution of sal martis.

From the preceding experiments it appears, that a wine gallon of the Hartfell water contains,

Of Sulphat of iron - - - -	84 grains.
Sulphat of alumine - - -	12 ditto.
Azotic gas - - - - -	5 cubic inches.

Together with fifteen grains of oxid of iron, with which the sulphuric acid seems to be supersaturated, and which it gradually deposits on exposure to the air, and almost immediately when boiled.

As the principal mineralizers of this water are the sulphats of iron and alumine, it is evident that, if well corked, it will keep for months, and perhaps years, unimpaired in its qualities; hence it may be carried to a distance better than most mineral waters, and its good effects need not be confined to Scotland, or even to Britain. When Dr. Johnstone had the care of it, he sent it to many towns in England, and to the West Indies; but it is now in hands that render it of little benefit to the public. As it keeps so well, it is not necessary to drink it on the spot, which would be very inconvenient, but it may be procured in Moffat in a fresh state. It very much resembles the water of the Horley Green Spa near Halifax, of which I published an analysis in 1790, only the Horley Green water is considerably stronger.

WHILE rambling about Moffat, I observed a spring near the further Annan bridge, at the end of the town, beyond the manse, on the Dumfries road, which appeared to be a chalybeate. On tasting it, I found it strongly resembled the chalybeates at High Harrowgate; I therefore made some experiments with it, of which the following are the results:

1. Tincture of galls produced a beautiful purple colour; but not after the water had been boiled.
2. Lime water produced a slight cloud.
3. Muriate of barytes caused no change.
4. Acid of sugar produced no effect.
5. Tincture of turnsole caused a slight redness.
6. Acetite of lead produced no effect.

THESE experiments convinced me of its resemblance to the Harrowgate chalybeates, in which the iron is suspended by carbonic acid, as is evidently the case here.

I NEXT expelled the gas by means of the machine, which amounted to 17 cubic inches, of which 13 were carbonic acid gas, and three azotic gas.

A WINE gallon of the water was next made to boil gently for a quarter of an hour, during which time it deposited a quantity of yellow sediment, which, being collected by filtration, weighed two grains, and was evidently oxid of iron. The clear

liquor which remained after filtration, was not affected by any of the above tests.

HENCE a wine gallon of this water contains,

Of Oxid of iron - - - -	2 grains.
Carbonic acid gas - -	13 cubic inches.
Azotic gas - - -	3 ditto.

THE quantities of iron and carbonic acid, which are the only substances of any consequence, are very nearly equal to those in the chalybeates of Harrowgate. From this circumstance, it cannot be doubted, that if this well were properly inclosed, which I was promised should be done, it would be a valuable addition to Moffat: it would agree with many constitutions in which the Hartfell water is improper, on account of its too great astringency and tonic power; and its vicinity to Moffat is a great advantage, as it can be drank on the spot by those who resort to this watering place.

HAVING finished what observations I had to make on the chemical properties of the mineral waters in the neighbourhood of Moffat, I shall beg leave to lay before my readers an account of their medicinal virtues, which was communicated to me by Dr. Johnstone, a judicious practitioner, who has resided at Moffat more than thirty years, and who is consequently well qualified to give information on this head.

"THE water which has been used as a medicine for the greatest length of time, is what is generally called the *Moffat well*, or *sulphur water*, which has been a place of resort for invalids for more than 150 years, and will continue to be so, not only from its medicinal powers, but also from the very dry, healthy, and romantic situation of Moffat. We have different traditions respecting its discovery, which are of little consequence; but I have reason to believe that it was first ordered to be cleared out by a lady of the name of WHITEFORD, who married a gentleman in this neighbourhood, and who had been cured of some complaint by this water, after having ineffectually tried others. The first notice of it in print that I know of, was by MATTHEW MAC KAIE of Edinburgh, who gave a chemical and medicinal account of it in 1659, and mentions its having been discovered some years before. Mr. MILLIGAN, a surgeon here about fifty years ago, gave an account of it, which may be seen in the Edinburgh Medical Essays.

"ITS effects have been long noticed in scrophulous, and herpetic or scorbutic cases. In scrophula its good effects are very observable, either when the glands or the bones are affected. If used in an early stage, before humour is formed in the glands, it most commonly discusses the swelling; and if the humour be formed, it promotes suppuration; so that taken in the stage in which the constitution is not much affected, it seldom fails to make a cure. When the bones are affected the cure is more obstinate, though its effect in promoting the exfoliation of

carious bones seems considerable. I have seen some instances of whole bones being cast off piece by piece. We have had many instances of white swellings of the knee being cured, if taken before the bones were much corroded or enlarged, and even afterwards, attended with great exfoliations. I saw one instance lately in this neighbourhood, where a number of pieces of bone were cast off, and though the joint remains stiff, the man is able to follow a laborious employment.

"In most kinds of what is generally called scurvy, whether in the form of herpetic eruptions, or cutaneous ulcers, or periodical erysipelatous eruptions, pimples in the face, or inflammations of the eyes, the salutary effects of this water have long been experienced. Since the time of its discovery it has been so noted for the cure of these diseases, as to deter others, labouring under other complaints in which it might have been equally beneficial, from visiting Moffat, because they dreaded the stigma generally affixed to persons resorting to this place. But this prejudice has long been got the better of, and these kind of patients now make only a small portion of our visitants.

"It has been successfully used in rheumatic cases, even where the limbs are stiffened and contracted. I have seen several instances of gentlemen from the East and West Indies, with liver complaints, who have attributed their cure to the use of it: it acts very powerfully as a diuretic, by which quality it clears the ureters, forces off gravel, and even substances of considerable size

from the bladder. I have some in my possession nearly the size of a field bean, which were forced down the urethra; it is not long since its use in bilious complaints began to be known. These complaints are sometimes constitutional, but are most commonly the result of intemperance, or a sedentary life: the commonly symptoms are colics, vomitings, want of appetite, indigestion, costiveness, flatulency, and heart-burn. When properly administered, this water not only alleviates, but frequently removes these symptoms. It is equally efficacious where there is a deficiency in any of the natural secretions, and in some cases where the constitution is greatly reduced, either from an original fault or lingering illness. We must, however, except consumptive complaints, in which the symptoms seem generally to be aggravated during a residence here.

"THE water is so gentle in its operation, that the most delicate may use it with great safety and benefit.

"I FEAR I shall scarcely be credited, when I assert as a fact, that a man drank in one morning sixteen Scots pints of it, without any other inconvenience than a little giddiness. I have known persons for months together drink from five to eight bottles of it every morning: indeed it is very common among the lower class to drink from three to six bottles, and I do not recollect that any have materially suffered by it. The quantity usually prescribed is from one to three bottles drank in the morning at the well.

"BESIDES the benefit derived from drinking, the bath has its share of merit. In many cases I have seen the warm bath highly useful; the mineral seems to be absorbed, it being a fact well known, that not only the clothes, but the breath of those who bathe, have the sulphureous odour of the water. It should be used as a warm bath in all cases where there are ulcers or eruptions of any kind, whether scrophulous or scorbutic; and in cases of chronic rheumatism and paralysis. Every house has conveniencies for bathing on very reasonable terms.

"The Hartfell water is a very powerful chalybeate, and requires particular attention, as well as judgment, in taking it up: it often happens, that for many months together it cannot be got in perfection, being only good after rain, and best of all when heavy rains have succeeded dry weather. Owing to these and other particular circumstances, this water has never obtained that celebrity to which it is justly entitled. Immediately after it was discovered, Dr. HORSEBURGH made some experiments with it, and published a few cases in which it had been used with success. His paper is inserted in the first volume of the Edinburgh Essays and Observations, Physical and Literary.

"As it is a very powerful tonic, we should expect that it would be useful in diseases of weakness. I have likewise known many instances of its particular good effects in coughs proceeding from phlegm, spitting of blood, and sweatings: in stomach complaints, attended with head-achs, giddiness, heart-burn, vomiting, indi-

gestion, flatulency, and habitual costiveness; in gouty complaints affecting the stomach and bowels; in obstructions and diseases peculiar to the female sex. It has likewise been used externally with great advantage in tetterous eruptions, and old obstinate ulcers.

"As the water is very powerful it is generally drank in small quantities, seldom exceeding an English pint a-day, though in some cases I have prescribed twice that quantity. A few years ago a gentleman from England, afflicted with very bad stomach complaints, after trying a variety of mineral waters without advantage, came to make trial of the Hartfell spaw, and for six weeks drank a Scotch pint of it daily, which completely cured him. As this is much more than the quantity that patients can generally bear, it should be observed, that he had been in the habit for years before of drinking mineral waters freely.

"With respect to the new chalybeate, on which you made some experiments, I can as yet say little; but from its nature, it must be a very valuable acquisition to Moffat, and will, I think, answer in some cases where the other waters will not."

There are many pleasant rides about Moffat, and some scenes in the neighbourhood by no means destitute of beauty and sublimity, which are frequently visited by the company; among these may be mentioned *Belle Craig*, situated at a short

distance from the Carlisle road, a romantic and sequestered spot, which will scarcely fail to repay the trouble of a visit.

LEAVING Moffat early one fine morning, we took the Carlisle road, and at the distance of about a mile and a half from the village, passed Dumcrief, the property of Dr. CURRIE of Liverpool, delightfully situated and surrounded by extensive plantations. The river Moffat runs through the midst of the grounds, and a branch of it being separated to turn a mill, insulates the garden. Proceeding along the Carlisle road, about a mile and a half beyond Dumcrief, we observed the conflux of three rivers, the Moffat, the Annan, and the Evan. These united streams take the name of Annan, though before their junction the Annan was the least of the three. As we proceeded, the extensive valley, flat and even like a lake, surrounded by hills, with the beautiful river meandering through it, attracted our attention. Indeed, the most superficial observer must be convinced that this valley has formerly been covered with water, which having gradually worn down the natural dam or boundary at its lower part, has subsided and retired to its present course. This natural dam is very visible from a small bridge in the road, a little beyond the third mile-stone: the mound has evidently the appearance of having been worn away in the middle, and forms a scene by no means unpicturesque.

ABOUT two hundred yards beyond the third mile-stone we left the high road, and ascended a kind of path on the righ

Belle Craig.

which conducted us over a hill to the entrance of a glen skirted with wood. Through this wood we descended by a path not very distinct, to a little brook, which we crossed, and proceeded along a road by the side of another small brook: at this place the glen begins to contract, and its steep sides are covered with wood to the very top: on walking about a hundred yards, we came to a scene highly picturesque. On our right, a fine rugged rock, crowned with oaks, and whose face was covered with a lichen of a beautiful whiteness, mixed with heath and shrubs, rises perpendicular from the bottom of the glen, and threatens destruction to those who venture near its base. The remainder of the contracted view towards the left, is bounded by a concave precipice, almost covered with wood, there being only a few places where the bare rock overlooks the shrubs and trees. In one place a small but beautiful cascade descends from the top of a rock on the left, to join the brook below.

It is the white rock on the right, that rears its venerable front so high, which is called Belle Craig, and which, I suppose, means bald rock, *beld craig* being the provincial appellation for a bald rock. Some have supposed that the picturesque beauty of this rock acquired it the name of Belle Craig.

When we had passed this beautiful and sequestered scene, the glen contracted very fast, its high perpendicular walls approaching nearer and nearer, till they were only a few feet asunder; here we had another view of the cascade which has been men-

tioned, and which appears to consist of several different parts, its stream being here and there hid from the eye by shrubs. On going a little further, the valley became so narrow, that there was scarcely room for a foot-path between the perpendicular rock and the brook. It soon afterwards widens a little, and on the left hand is to be seen a little projecting rock, from which water is continually dripping. This little weeping rock, which is a humble miniature resemblance of that at Knaresborough in Yorkshire, is by no means destitute of beauty, and the drops form a vivid and beautiful rainbow, if properly viewed when the sun shines. We next descended a few rude steps hewn out of the rock, and soon came to the boundary, where the brook fills up the whole width of the glen. This is generally the *ne plus ultra* of the visitants, it being difficult to proceed further; but those who do not fear being wet, go up the brook, which has worn a deep channel in the rock, down which it tumbles, forming a very fine cascade.

It was once the intention of some gentlemen fond of picturesque scenery, to have conducted the brook over the top of the rock, nearly opposite to the stone steps just mentioned, which would have had a very fine effect. This romantic little spot bears a great resemblance to Hackfall, near Rippon in Yorkshire.

In the vicinity of Moffat is a very fine cascade, frequently visited by the company, called the Grey Mare's Tail.

To see this cascade we went nearly half a mile from Moffat, on the Carlisle road, and then turning to the left, ascended a hill called Craigy hill, which is part of Dr. Currie's estate, and from which we had a fine view of the venerable woods of Dumcrief. Following the road to Selkirk, we crossed a small impetuous brook, with a very rocky channel, called Craigy-burn, and soon entered a fine glen beautifully wooded. This wood, which consists chiefly of hazel and birch, is called Craigy-burn-wood. In the midst of a flat and fertile but narrow vale, the Moffat winds its serpentine course. The other side of the river was formerly wooded, which, no doubt, added much to the beauty of the scenery; but the wood having been cut down, and no attention afterwards paid to it by the owner, this ornament of the country is lost.

When we had passed Craigy-burn-wood, we had a full view of the romantic glen, bounded by lofty hills, frowning like the surly sentinels of the legion posted behind them. A ride more romantic than this, on a fine day, can scarcely be imagined. After riding by the side of the Moffat about seven miles, we crossed it, and ascending the hill on the other side, had a full view of the cascade we were in search of. Here the water precipitating itself from rock to rock, dashing, foaming, and thundering from a great height, between two steep hills, falls into a dark pool, from whence it runs with less impetuosity to augment the waters of the Moffat, which it joins a little above the place where we crossed the stream. The water, by its precipitous fall, is broken by the air, so as to appear as white as snow.

The water which forms this cascade runs from a lake on the top of the hill, about three quarters of a mile distant from the highest part of the fall. This lake, which is called Loch Skeen, is 1,100 yards in length, and about 400 in breadth; there is a little island where eagles bring out their young in great safety, as the water is deep, and there is no boat on the lake. The water of this lake abounds with very fine trout.

George Buchannan.

From an original Painting in the Museum of Anderson's Institution, Glasgow.

Drawn by W.H.Watts.

Engraved by Wm. Green.

APPENDIX.

GEORGE BUCHANNAN.

THIS writer, who was distinguished in the sixteenth century as a poet, historian, and man of universal genius, was descended from an ancient family, which was never rich, but by the extravagance of his grandfather was reduced to great indigence. His mother's brother saw that he had genius, and sent him to Paris for his education; but in less than two years the death of his uncle, and his own bad state of health, obliged him to return home. He then became a soldier under JOHN Duke of ALBANY; and the severity of the campaign brought on a disease which confined him to his bed during the whole of the next winter. While struggling with poverty and sickness, he was, at the age of twenty years, admitted into the college of St. Barbe in Paris, where he taught grammar for three years, and became acquainted with the Earl of CASSILS, who was so delighted with his wit and manners, that he made him his companion and tutor. With him he remained five years abroad, and two years at home;

at the end of which the Earl died, and he was about to return to France, when JAMES the Fifth made him preceptor to his illegitimate son, who was afterwards the famous Regent MURRAY. While he was in this situation, there was a conspiracy against the king, who, believing the Franciscans to be concerned in it, ordered BUCHANNAN to write against them. He did so, but in such gentle terms that the King was dissatisfied, and commanded him to write with more severity. The second order produced the famous Franciscanus, of which only one copy was given to the King, who let other persons see it, and it would seem in a dishonourable manner; for it soon became public, and BUCHANNAN found the animosity of the church more powerful than the favour of the crown.* Cardinal BEATON offered a sum of money for his head; and the prosecution of him became a common cause, not only to mendicants, but to ecclesiastics of every kind. He was imprisoned, and would have been tried, had he not escaped from his keepers. When he arrived in Paris, he found BEATON there as ambassador to that court. This induced him immediately to quit that city for Bourdeaux, where he taught in the public schools for three years. BEATON found him out, and would have had him tried in France, if the affairs in Scotland had not put an end to his embassy.

* This poem consists of 936 lines: it is a satire upon the Franciscans, or monks of the order of St. Francis, who in France were called Cordeliers, from the cords with which they were girt. A Franciscan is supposed by the poet to converse with his brethren, and to instruct novices; in doing which, he displays all the abominable principles and practices with which that order has been charged.

FROM Bourdeaux, after inspecting the education of the celebrated MONTAIGNE, he went to Paris, and taught the second class in the college of Bourbon. In the year 1547, he went to Portugal, in order to teach philosophy and polite learning; and he says that he did so, because his companions were rather familiar friends than strangers, and because that corner of the world appeared to him most likely to be free from tumults. He was happy in that country for some time; but when his friend GOVEANUS died, he was imprisoned, first in the Inquisition,* and afterwards in a monastery. At last he obtained his liberty, and was made tutor to the son of Mareschal BRISAC, with whom he spent five years in France and Italy. He returned to Scotland in the same year that Protestantism became the established religion of that country. He was made principal of St. Leonard's college in St. Andrew's, and was elected moderator of the general assembly of the church, an office of great importance at that time, and which has never been conferred upon a layman but in that instance only. He was appointed preceptor to the young king by the authority of parliament. He was one of the commissioners to York, and afterwards to Hampton Court, upon the

* When Buchannan was accused in Portugal, the first charge against him was, That he had written the Franciscanus: the second, That he had eaten flesh in Lent; and the third, That he had no good opinion of the Romish religion. To the first he answered, That before he left France he had sent an account of that affair to the king of Portugal, and that he had given but one copy of that poem to the king of Scotland, by whose order it was written. His own words are, "Unum enim ejus exemplum, Regi Scotorum, qui scribendi auctor fuerat, erat datum."

affairs of Queen MARY; and at his return he was made director of Chancery, and pensioner of the cross regal in Ayrshire. Honours were heaped upon him, even after the death of his great friend the Regent MURRAY; for he was made one of the lords of council, and lord privy-seal. He retired from court about a year before his death, and died a bachelor in December, 1582, in the seventy-sixth year of his age.

THERE has scarcely existed a distinguished person in public life, whose moral character has not been calumniated through envy or other motives. BUCHANNAN'S was attacked with great virulence. The injustice of the attack is, however, pretty certain, because no other proof has been brought than vague assertions, and the chain of facts just enumerated form the strongest evidence of his probity and merit. The only circumstance which has not been well explained, is, how he fell into such poverty, that he was buried at the expense of the city of Edinburgh. The offices which he held in Scotland, during the latter part of his life, were lucrative; I cannot therefore see how he became so indigent, but by supposing that he gave away his money in charity. This seems the more probable, because in all the calumnies that were thrown out against him, he is not so much as charged with extravagance; because prodigality is seldom the vice of old age; and because, when he was near his end, he desired his servant to give to the poor what little money was in his purse, as there was not enough to defray the expenses of

his funeral; saying, "that if they will not bury my corpse, they may let it lie where I am, or they may throw it where they please."

ANOTHER charge which has been urged against BUCHANNAN as a writer, is indelicacy and licentiousness, particularly in his description of an amorous Franciscan in his poem Franciscanus: but he may perhaps be defended when we compare the delicate taste of the present age with that in which he wrote. The ancient satirists, as Hume observes, often used great liberties in their expressions; but their freedom no more resembles the licentiousness of ROCHESTER, than the nakedness of an Indian does that of a common prostitute.* In the twelfth and fourteenth centuries, when the church of Rome was in the height of her glory, there was a settled enmity between the priests of the same church, viz. the seculars and regulars, or parish priests and monks, because their manners and interests were in some respects different. The art of printing and copper-plate engraving was unknown at that time; and the seculars, who were in possession of the cathedrals, which were then the places of greatest resort, made satirical statues and figures of the monks, instead of lampooning them, as would be done in our times, by prints and pamphlets. In several cathedrals, for instance that of Glasgow, there are still remaining many figures of the monks in more indecent situations than any described by BUCHANNAN; so that he, in fact, said no more against them than was com-

* Hume's History of James II.

monly done by their brother ecclesiastics. These figures, which are to be found in the cathedrals of most countries in Europe, present a striking view of human nature. In the opinion of good catholics, every stone in a religious building is holy in the strictest sense; while protestants think there is nothing more sacred in the *stones* of a church than in those of any public edifice; and yet the first applied their holy fabrics to a use, of which a protestant would be ashamed. So different are the manners of mankind in different ages, and so wonderfully does the human mind reconcile the greatest inconsistencies when the malevolent passions are afloat, and fanned by party zeal.

In the Life of Buchannan, written by himself, there is a dignity, good humour, modesty, and knowledge of the world, which stand forth as a reproach to almost all other self-biographers. Though he was oppressed with years and disease when he wrote it; and though the clergy had persecuted him for a long time, and zealously sought his life, yet he speaks of them in the following terms: "They, to wit the Franciscans, who make a profession of gentleness, took that slight offence more amiss than seemed becoming in them, who were so pious in the opinion of the vulgar; and not finding sufficient cause to justify their immoderate anger, they had recourse to their common charge, to wit, that of heresy." When he speaks of the persecution which he and his colleagues met with in Portugal, it is in this manner: "All their enemies, and all their rivals, first secretly, and then openly, fell upon them in the most hostile

manner; and they insulted BUCHANNAN with the utmost bitterness; for he was a stranger who had few to rejoice in his safety, to lament his distress, or to revenge his injury." When speaking of the monastery in which he was imprisoned, he says: "That though the monks who were appointed to instruct him were extremely ignorant in religion, yet they were neither inhuman nor wicked." It is remarkable that this cruel treatment did not deprive him of tranquillity of mind; for, during his confinement, he employed his time in writing the translation of the Psalms of David, which has been admired in every country. He was so far from assuming great importance on account of his literary fame, that when he speaks of himself it is in this manner: "The judges, who had tired themselves and him for half a year, shut him up in a monastery, that it might not be thought they had without cause harassed a man who was not unknown." And this it was proper for him to mention, because, without it, no just account could be given of his imprisonment after his trial.

WHETHER we consider BUCHANNAN as a poet or historian, he must be allowed to have possessed very uncommon abilities. The Franciscanus alone would have raised him to great eminence as a poet, for there is hardly any satire of the same length that is so poignant, correct, and elegant. The style is nervous, and so much elevated, that some critics have spoken of it as too heroic for a satire: but this circumstance, like the style of Lutrin, or

the Rape of the Lock, by exciting ridicule produces contempt; while it by no means diminishes the abhorrence which is due to such crimes. BUCHANNAN wrote a great variety of little poems, and many of them have so much of the epigrammatic point, that the reader must be both surprised and pleased to see that the same author possessed likewise so much of the true elegiac vein as in his "Illa mihi semper presenti dura Neæra," so much of the ancient simplicity as in Jephtes and Baptistes; and so much of the most elevated sublime, as in his Sphæra, and in his Paraphrase of the Psalms of David.

WHEN we take a view of BUCHANNAN as an historian, it may be proper to observe, that no history will ever be valuable for the composition, that does not exhibit either philosophic views of human nature, or beautiful pictures of interesting events. In both characters the merit of BUCHANNAN is conspicuous. The outlines, for instance, of the excellent Treatises concerning Crimes and Punishments, are contained in BUCHANNAN'S short remarks upon the tortures that were inflicted upon the murderers of JAMES the First.* And his account of the taking of Dumbarton Castle by CRAUFURD, is a more striking picture of

* Hoc maxime pacto, mors Jacobi, crudelis quidem illa, sed certe ultra humanitatis modum crudeliter vindicata est. Hujus enim generis supplicia vulgi animos non tam à sævitia metu avocant, quam ad quidvis agendum et patiendum, efferant; nec acerbitate tam pravos deterrent, quam assuetudine spectandi terrorem pœnarum imminuunt: presertim si facinorosorum animi adversus vim doloris induruerint: apud vulgus enim imperitum, confidentia pertinax constantis fiduciæ plerumque laudem accipit.

an interesting event, than any that has since been made of it by very able writers. His history has been much read and admired by foreigners,* as well as by his own countrymen.

It must be acknowledged, that there are some things in his history which are inaccurate, and others which are false; but before he be condemned for them, the following circumstances ought to be considered: First; his inaccuracies have been discovered in consequence of examining evidence to which he had not access. Second; in his ancient history he followed what he thought to be the best accounts of other writers, and only gave them a classic dress. The modern cry, therefore, that the Ancient History of Scotland is fabulous, can never be a just charge against him; for if he had not related what was handed down to him, or if he had been a sceptic without the evidence of records, he would not have been an historian, but a writer of romance. Thirdly, the rage of civil and religious party was so

* "The style," says Le Clerc, "is beautiful and pure; and he appears every where to speak the truth as far as it was known to him. His judgment of things is sound; he censures freely what deserves it, and commends what he thought worthy of praise. He unites the brevity of Sallust with the elegance and perspicuity of Livy. But he is not sufficiently exact in his dates, and does not cite his authorities."

Thuanus says of him, "That though Buchannan, according to the genius of his nation, sometimes inveighs against crowned heads with severity, yet that his history is written with so much purity, spirit, and judgment, that it does not appear to be the production of a man who had passed his days in the dust of a school, but of one who had always been conversant in the most important affairs of state. Such," says he, "was the greatness of his mind, and the felicity of his genius, that the meanness of his fortune did not hinder him from forming just sentiments concerning things of the greatest moment."

violent in his own time, that it was often impossible to know the truth; and yet his general account of disputed events appears, to the most candid and best informed in modern times, to be well founded. If he had not the means of knowing the truth exactly, we may lament his situation, but cannot blame his integrity, or cease to admire the purity, the vigour, and the elegance of his style.

Upon the whole; after making every just allowance for the shades in Buchannan's character, he must be considered, by every impartial reader, as one of the most illustrious persons which this island has produced; and there is hardly perhaps another nation that can give an example of the powers of writing prose and verse united in the same man in so distinguished a manner.*

* For the materials of this Appendix, I am indebted to a MS. paper written by the late Professor Anderson, and read before the Literary Society in Glasgow College.

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Aros	18
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Torloisk	20

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